FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 APRIL 1983

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Baghdad Bombings — Two boobytrapped cars exploded in Baghdad on 21 April, killing and injuring a number of people, INA reported. The Iraqi minister of culture and information blamed Iran for the bombings and stressed that Iraq has decided "to avenge" the death of its citizens, the report added. A Tehran-based Iraqi opposition group — the Iraqi branch of the "Martyr Sadr Brigade" — claimed responsibility for the blasts that were directed against the radio-television building and the Air Force Administrative Center in Baghdad, according to AFP. An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman, in an interview with IRNA, denied involvement in the bombings and said the Iraqi charge was an attempt to cover up the increasing wave of opposition in that country.

Military Situation — Iraqi aircraft scored a direct hit and destroyed an Iranian vessel approaching the Nowruz oil fields, an Iraqi military communique carried by INA claimed. An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 21 April reported that Iranian forces continued to defend their positions in the Maysan-Faqih area and did not mention any naval engagement. IRNA claimed that two oil reservoirs were set ablaze and destroyed at the Iraqi oil installation at Al-Faw. Another IRNA report cited Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as condemning the missile attack on Dezful and noting that "the USSR and France were greatly involved in this crime" as they were the manufacturers of the missiles.

Israeli-Syrian Tension Over Lebanon, Golan

Israel will do "all it can" to prevent a military confrontation with Syria and wants to defuse the tension along the cease-fire line in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley, according to Israeli sources cited by Jerusalem television and radio. Nevertheless, the IDF has taken "surveillance measures" against Syrian military preparations and is closely watching Syrian reinforcements in Lebanon, an IDF source announced in remarks reported by AFP. Meanwhile, in response to an official Lebanese request, Syria banned Syrian and Lebanese airline flights between Damascus and Beirut, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a Syrian official. The decision was made because of the atmosphere in the Al-Biqa' valley, according to Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon.

Syria will not permit Israel to achieve any military, geographical, political, or economic gains in Lebanon because such gains would jeopardize Syria's security, TISHRIN declared in an article reported by SANA. Warning of the "bad consequences" any Israeli military adventure will have, the paper asserted that Syria is preparing itself for "all possibilities" while Israel is beating the "war drums" in the hope of obtaining U.S. approval for a surprise military strike against Syria in order to carry out plans to partition Lebanon. A Damascus radio commentary said the possibility that negotiations with Israel might result in its giving up the occupied land is refuted by the massive Israeli military buildup in Al-Biqa', the military exercise under way in the Golan, and by a recent "provocative" statement by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin reaffirming that Israel's law, jurisdiction, and administration will apply to the Golan Heights. President Hafiz al-Asad said the Golan was not occupied under law and will not be liberated under law, the radio went on, and Syria has the means and ability to liberate its land and restore all Arab rights.

President al-Asad received a message from the "Soviet leadership" on 21 April, according to Damascus radio. The radio did not elaborate on the content of the message.

Lebanon Negotiations, Security

No progress was made at the 21 April talks in Khaldah and "bitter differences of opinion" surfaced between Israel and Lebanon on all issues related to security arrangements, Jerusalem radio reported. The delegation heads were unable to resolve the sharp differences which emerged during the military committee's discussion of the security strip, Major Sa'd Haddad's status, UNIFIL, and joint patrols, the radio added. Israeli delegation sources expressed "dismay" that the Lebanese had reneged on verbal agreements reached in earlier deliberations. The radio subsequently noted that Israeli officials would meet on 22 April to examine new ideas aimed at speeding up the negotiations.

In a separate development an IDF soldier was killed in an ambush south of Tyre, Jerusalem radio noted. The Lebanese National Resistance claimed responsibility, according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio.

Commenting on the U.S. Embassy bombing, Egypt's AL-AHRAM joined other Arab media in holding Israel responsible. According to Cairo radio, AL-AHRAM said that Israel stood to gain more than any other party from the crime and that the United States should not disregard this in its search for the perpetrators.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee met in Tunis under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, who had just returned from Romania, TAP reported. The main items on the agenda were Jordanian-Palestinian relations and efforts to surmount difficulties obstructing a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as well as the planned emergency Arab summit conference, according to a PLO spokesman cited by TAP. Noting Moroccan King Hassan II's efforts to overcome obstacles to a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the spokesman indicated that the committee was examining proposals aimed at resolving the differences, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The spokesman also said the PLO, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia are in apparent "harmony" over the proposals.

Meanwhile, Budapest television broadcast a recorded interview with 'Arafat in which the PLO leader said he would like to reach agreement with Jordan, "but our point of view is clear and unequivocal." Claiming that all Arab countries have accepted "my proposal" for convening an emergency summit, 'Arafat said the 2-week postponement was made at Syria's request. Asked military preparations are "extremely dangerous and menacing."

Saudi Arabia

A Riyadh radio commentary criticized the U.S. Administration for holding the PLO fully responsible for the failure of the Reagan initiative while failing to blame Israel. The latter rejected the Reagan plan "categorically and without discussion," the radio said, while the PLO saw "some positive aspects" in it and did not reject it out of "desire to reject" but because it ignored Palestinian rights to self-determination and statehood. A Middle East tour by the U.S. secretary of state may consolidate the chances of peace, the radio continued, and President Reagan's recent cable to Syrian President al-Asad was a "constructive step" in this direction.

FBIS

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ZIMBABWE

PLO Executive Committee Meetings Begin in Tunis

JN212111 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2042 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has been meeting in Tunis since this morning for the first time since the breakdown of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks in Amman. In an exclusive statement to our radio, PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said that the Executive Committee is studying the benevolent Arab efforts, the majority of them by Moroccan King Hassan II, to surmount the obstacles that prevent reaching a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. The Palestinian spokesman explained that proposals have been drafted on the differences and are now being studied.

On his part, an informed Palestinian source pointed to the fact that a Palestinian envoy, Khalid al-Hasan, has been in Morocco for a week. He also mentioned that Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta paid two visits to Jordan. This source explained that there appears to be harmony between the positions of the PLO, Morocco and Saudi Arabia. He said that Iraq has also been informed of the proposals which have been drafted.

In another development, and contrary to what had been said today, it seems that the secretaries general of the various PLO factions did not participate in the Executive Committee meetings.

Further Report

LD211240 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1155 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Tunis, 21 Apr (TAP) — Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat returned to Tunis early this morning at the end of a tour during which he visited Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Romania.

PLO Executive Committee meetings began this morning under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the committee.

Palestinian information official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said that the most important items on the agenda are Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the efforts to surmount the difficulties obstructing a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement; the call by King Hassan II, the Moroccan monarch, for the convening of an emergency Arab summit in light of the Arab seven-member committee of the Fes summit having completed its mission; and the need for presenting a report on its activities to the emergency Arab summit. He stated that the PLO welcomes the convening of this emergency summit.

The Palestinian information official said that at these meetings Yasir 'Arafat will brief the leadership on the outcome of his visits and his Arab and international contacts, with regard to his recent visits to a number of Arab countries and to European and socialist countries. He explained that the purpose of these visits was to inform various international communities of the grave conditions inside the occupied Arab territories and to explain the PLO'S stance toward the Arab and international efforts aimed at reaching a political solution.

Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said that the question of poisoning at the institutes and schools in the occupied West Bank, the escalation of the Zionist policy of colonization, the propaganda campaign being launched by the United States accusing the PLO of being responsible for hindering the peace efforts, and the statements made by the U.S. secretary of state will be discussed by the leadership. He stressed that Shultz' statements are considered to be unaccepted interference in Arab and Palestinian affairs. In this respect he said that the Palestinian leadership will at these meetings define its stance toward all these questions and matters.

At the end of his statement Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman spoke about Yasir 'Arafat's tour of a number of socialist countries. He said that 'Arafat conducted talks on the highest level with the leaders of these countries, who asserted the socialist community's strong backing of the PLO and their standing by it in its struggle to restore the Palestinian people's stolen rights.

AFP: UK's Hurd Meets With PLO's Faruq Qaddumi

NC221024 Paris AFP in English 1013 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Tunis, April 22 (AFP) — British junior foreign minister Douglas Hurd and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) political secretary Faruq Qaddumi met at the British ambassador's residence here today, Palestinian sources said. They said the two men concentrated on recent developments in the Middle East and Britain's stand on the Palestine issue and attitude towards the PLO.

Mr Hurd, who winds up an official visit to Tunisia later today, was expected to give a press conference before leaving Tunis.

Boucetta, Al-Hasan Pay Secret Saudi, Iraq Visits

GF211451 Doha QNA in Arabic 1125 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Apr (QNA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN has quoted an official Palestinian source as saying that Palestinian-Jordanian political steps. We honored their opinion, and at the same time we expect others to honor our opinion also. We said at the talks that any joint action could only be based on what was agreed to unequivocally by Arab countries, and this base is the Arab peace plan accepted at the Fes summit.

[Question] Why did the bilateral talks with Jordan collapse?

[Answer] Let me continue, please. So this was what happened in the Arab world. I had to visit Arab countries to explain the M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, and Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, made secret visits to Riyadh and Baghdad during the past hours to discuss issues pertaining to the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue.

Quoting sources in Tunis, the newspaper also reported that the European group is currently making intensive contacts with the

Arab countries, the PLO, the United States, and Israel to begin a new European initiative to solve the Middle East problem.

The sources told the newspaper that the European initiative will depend on the Arab peace plan and U.S. President Reagan's initiative with some amendments to the two initiatives, noting that the tours which British officials are currently making of a number of Arab countries are for this purpose.

The sources asserted that the expanded Palestinian talks to be held in Tunis today will discuss this new initiative.

Budapest TV Interviews PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

LD212206 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1905 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Interview granted by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Budapest television "Panorama" program reporter Alajos Chrudinak in Budapest; date not given — recorded; questions and answers are in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Question] You are carrying out intensified diplomatic activity in Europe, in the socialist countries, and in the Arab world as well. What do you want to achieve with this?

[Answer] In fact, there is two-directional diplomatic movement. The first one covers the Arab States and it is connected with the recent political and diplomatic developments in the Arab region. Events here followed each other quickly. The Jordanian leaders worked out a joint communique which envisaged joint Palestinian point of view, and to call for a conference of leaders of the seven Arab countries entrusted with Palestinian questions or call for a comprehensive Arab summit. You ask what stirred up the disagreement between us and the Jordanian Government.

[Question] Yes, because King Husayn says that you proposed, or rather demanded, modifications in the joint communique which were unacceptable to him.

[Answer] As I have already mentioned, the king presented the draft communique connected with our joint political action. But he strongly insisted that this initiative should be made on the basis of the Reagan plan. We honor the Jordanian point of view but would like our opinion to be honored.

[Question] Do you see harmonization or reconciliation of the Palestinian and Jordanian points of view as being plausible?

[Answer] I have to tell you this dialogue has not broken between us. Even now, talks are continuing between Palestinian and Jordanian leaders on the most diverse levels. At the same time Arab countries also make efforts; they try to smooth away our disagreements.

[Question] I heard that King Hassan II of Morocco was asked by President Reagan to mediate between you and King Husayn.

[Answer] This is true. He also asked King Fahd and many other Arab leaders.

[Question] But with what result? You met King Hassan II in Morocco. Is it plausible that an agreement will be established between Jordan and the PLO?

[Answer] Frankly speaking I would like to achieve an agreement, but our point of view is clear and unequivocal.

[Question] That means an independent Palestinian state must first be created and following this you would enter into confederation with Jordan.

[Answer] We spoke of confederation. We used the expression confederation, but not the Arabic ittihad, that is, alliance. The expression confederation has a definite and unequivocal meaning in international law, it is an alliance between two independent states.

[Question] And does Jordan reject this formulation?

[Answer] Jordan does not oppose confederation. In fact the king agreed with confederation, but he is of the opinion that the Arab peace plan — that is the Fes plan — which we all approved, lacks a united implementation mechanism. Only the Reagan plan has this mechanism. But in connection, and this is our firm conviction — and this has been formulated already by the Palestinian parliament — that the Reagan plan does not recognize the Palestinian people's historic national rights, including the right to return, to self-determination, and to the setting up of an independent state. The United Nations has already recognized this but the Reagan plan does not.

[Question] You have said on a number of occasions that the Reagan plan has positive aspects. I wonder, are you expecting the United States, or President Reagan, to change their stand and recognize Palestinian rights?

[Answer] Look, in this plan an American president said for the first time that Transjordan, the Gaza Strip, and Arab Jerusalem are occupied territories. It is the first time this has happened.

[Question] He also spoke about the settlements.

[Answer] Yes, he spoke about the trampling of rights, about his opposing the Israeli settlement policy.

[Question] So these are the positive points?

[Answer] Yes. For this very reason I expected — I hoped — that the United States would not set itself against the unanimous international will that recognizes the rights of the Palestinians, rights which were accepted also by the various UN resolutions.

[Question] In your opinion, how can one explain the fact that the United States does not recognize the rights of Palestinian self-determination and of the setting up of an independent Palestinian state? Is it, I wonder, because... ['Arafat interrupts]

[Answer] You should address this question to the American people. I also ask the Americans: How can they accept it? After all, their philosophy is founded on self-determination. How can

they consent to saying no to the right of 5 million Palestinians to self-determination? How?

elsewhere, as well. For instance, in the Arab world, because Ronald Reagan, after having spoken on the telephone in recent days with King Fahd, King Husayn, King Hassan II, and Mubarak, the Egyptian president, said that they all agree with him and that they do not support you. If no Arab pressure is put on Reagan, then why should he change his opinion?

[Answer] Look, at one time Carter and Nixon too said that the Arab leaders had never asked them for an independent state for the Palestinians. Then the Fes summit conferences convened, and it was shown that this was not true. There, all the Arab countries came out on the side of an independent Palestinian state, of which the capital is Jerusalem.

[Question] Then why do not the Arab countries, particularly those which could exert pressure on the Americans, for instance Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and others, and primarily Egypt, stand more resolutely on the side of the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] In my opinion, on the basis of my diplomatic tour — in connection with which you asked at the start of our conversation why I have been and why I am going to so many countries — I can say, and I would like you to understand this, that I am finding the exact opposite of what Reagan said — in other words, that the Arab countries are on our side. Everybody accepted my proposal that we should convene an Arab summit conference, either with the participation of the seven mediators or with all the Arab countries, in order to honestly and openly debate the various standpoints.

[Question] In your opinion, will the summit conference be convened?

[Answer] It should have been held right at the start, but by mutual agreement we postponed it for 2 weeks at the repeated request of the Syrian Government.

[Question] Will Syria be taking part?

[Answer] Syria asked for the 2-week postponement so that it might clear up a few disputed issues.

[Question] Therefore, the only topic at the summit meeting will be a debate on the Palestinian-Jordanian conflict.

[Answer] Basically, yes. This will be an extraordinary summit conference, exclusively for the debate of this matter, as this is now the region's most burning, most important issue, that is the political attack of the United States which is directed not only against the PLO but against the entire Arab region. [sentence as heard] After the military attack in Lebanon a political attack started.

[Question] Do you consider it possible to merge the Reagan plan and the Fes resolutions?

[Answer] No, that cannot be, since you must know that as long as the U.S. Government and Reagan do not recognize the rights of the Palestinian people, there cannot be a solution in the Middle East.

[Question] But do you not think that Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egyptian President Mubarak, and King Hassan II of Morocco, as well as others, are all endeavoring in this region — at least in my view — to help the United States to some way achieve its political objectives?

[Answer] Look, it is no secret that they have important contacts with the United States.

[Question] In addition to this they are in considerable agreement with the Americans' endeavors in the Middle East.

[Answer] In spite of this, they also support the rights of the Palestinian people.

[Question] Yes, but why do King Fahd and President Mubarak fail to deny what Reagan tells the press about his telephone conversations with them?

[Answer] You should ask them about this. I do not interfere in these matters. You should put this question to them.

[Question] Look, what I meant by this... ['Arafat interrupts]

[Answer] You should not forget the fact that they are in contact with one of the two greatest powers, which has an enormous influence on the whole region. And this is by no means a transient influence.

[Question] Is it conceivable that the Palestinians may make concessions with regard to giving Jordan the right to represent the Palestinians?

[Answer] Let me say something to you. No one has asked me to entrust King Husayn with representing us; indeed, in accordance with the resolution of our parliament, I cannot entrust this to anyone.

[Question] Has King Husayn not asked you for this?

[Answer] No, he has not requested me to entrust him with this. Nor have I the right to entrust anyone with this. After all, I too am a representative of the Palestinian people.

[Question] What do you expect of the Arab summit and of your diplomatic efforts? What are your plans?

[Answer] Don't expect me to reveal all my plans in this television interview.

[Question] Before we began this discussion I was urging you precisely to reveal all your secret concepts.

[Answer] Don't expect me to reveal my plans.

[Question] The other day King Husayn said that Yasir 'Arafat was interested only in the PLO and was not concerned about the occupied territories.

[Answer] I thank him for this remark but I have no comment to make on it.

[Question] Look, with this question I meant to ask whether you considered it conceivable that King Husayn might follow a separate path and ignore the PLO.

[Answer] Anything can happen.

[Question] Is that possible?

[Answer] We must be prepared for everything. As far as I know the Jordanian Government is trying to win over certain Palestinian personalities who have been invited to the palace by King Husayn for talks.

[Question] How can the balance of forces be changed in the Middle East, as the current distribution of forces is rather unfavorable for the Palestinians?

[Answer] This question should be asked not only of the Palestinians and 'Arafat. This question is addressed to every Arab country and all our allies, including our allies in the socialist countries, headed by the fraternal USSR.

[Question] Does this mean that we should take steps?

[Answer] I am saying that we are all obliged to take action because your question concerning the balance of forces affects not only the Palestinian people.

[Question] What kind of role do you envisage for Syria in altering this unfavorable balance of forces? The deployment of forces and military preparations around Syria are well known.

[Answer] The concentration of troops is directed not only against Syria but also against the Palestine resistance movement in the Al-Biqa' Valley in Lebanon.

[Question] Do you think that Israel will launch another war?

[Answer] The concentrating of troops is in progress. Forty-eight hours ago, Israeli Defense Minister Arens announced that the army had been mobilized and a state of military preparedness had been ordered. This is extremely dangerous and menacing.

[Question] Are Palestinian-Jordanian talks continuing under these circumstances?

[Answer] I hope so. I am doing everything to ensure that the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue may continue.

[Question] In your view, can the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip, in other words, the occupied Palestinian territories, be regained and, if so, when?

[Answer] If we just keep on saying that the occupied Palestinian territories, namely the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, must be regained, that is not sufficient. This requires a very long struggle.

[Question] Will Begin dare annex the occupied territories?

[Answer] Will he annex them or not? The facts speak for themselves. He has confiscated 44 percent of the land and has established settlements there. He has requisitioned a further 12 percent of the land for military purposes. All in all, this amounts to 56 percent of the land, so, in practice, he has already annexed it.

[Question] In other words, the policy of established facts is continuing?

[Answer] Yes. The situation is extremely serious and dangerous.

[Question] Is there some new Arab plan for regaining the territories?

[Answer] You should ask them about this because we follow the path of revolutionary struggle and will not deviate from this path.

Further on 'Arafat Meeting With Israeli CP Leader

LD211109 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Prague, April 21 (KUNA) — The Israeli Communist Party RAKAH has affirmed that there can be no Middle East solution without achieveing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories.

Following talks here Wednesday between a Palestine Liberation Organization delegation led by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and an Israeli Communist Party delegation led by Secretary General Me'ir Wilner, a statement was issued in which the two sides affirmed that "Israel's U.S.-backed aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples will not achieve its main aims, and the Palestinian people's heroism under PLO leadership had won the whole world's respect."

The Israeli delegation reviewed the wide Israeli opposition to this aggression, crimes of genocide against the Palestinian people and continuing aggression which could spread to Syria, the official Palestinian news agency 'WAFA' said.

It affirmed that the Palestinian question is at the center of the Middle East conflict and that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace is only possible by ending Israeli occupation of Arab territories and achieveing the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights, including self-determination, the establishment of their independent state with its capital in Arab Jerusalem, under PLO leadership, and solving the Palestinian refugee problem according to U.N. resolutions.

It also expressed its support for the Palestinian National Council 16th session's resolutions, adopted through unity of views and

consolidation of cohesiveness of the PLO, the Palestinian people's only legitimate representative.

The Israeli delegation affirmed that the PNC resolutions, which adopted the Fes summit peace program and the Soviet-proposed Middle East peace plan, constitute a firm basis to bring peace to the region as a contribution to world peace.

The PLO delegation expressed its great appreciation for the Israeli Communist Party's positions and struggle against the policy of occupation and aggression by ruling circles in Israel, as well as its support for the Palestinian Arab people's national rights.

The PLO delegation appreciated this courageous [word indistinct] against the aggression on Lebanon and the criminal repressive acts in the occupied Lebanese and Palestinian areas. The PLO delegation also expressed its full appreciation for the positions and struggle of all forces of peace and progress in Israel which oppose occupation and aggression and support the Palestinian Arab people's national rights.

The delegation emphasized the importance of independent decision-making for the Palestinian people and their representative the PLO with regard to determining the future.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the development of political relations between them in the interests of a just peace and united efforts by all peace forces in the Middle East. They expressed their common desire to continue and expand friendly joint action between them.

Fatah's Al-Hasan on Reagan, Fes Plans

PM2111123 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 22 Apr 83 pp 33, 34

[Telephone interview with Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, by H.H. "before his departure for Sofiafrom Tunis"]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH had a telephone conversation with Hani al-Hasan before he left for Sofia and asked him whether he would return to Amman shortly. He replied: "Of course, but I must take with me a unified stand which I will submit to His Majesty King Husayn. I will not go emptyhanded." Hani al-Hasan is one of those who are very enthusiastic about dialogue and federation with Jordan. In a previous statement to AL-HAWADITH he said that "to recover the West Bank in a federation with Jordan is better than losing it and abandoning it to Israel." Al-Hasan participated in the dialogue [with Jordan] from the beginning and knows all the details. He insists that it has never stopped. The following is text of the interview:

AL-HAWADITH: Yasir 'Arafat avoided returning to Jordan immediately after the conclusion of the PLO discussions in Kuwait and the issuing of the Jordanian statement. Does this mean the beginning of a Jordanian-Palestinian rift?

Hani al-Hasan: Frankly I say that we are permitted to disagree over formulas and in our views of the political situation but as Jordanians and Palestinians, we are not permitted to separate from one another because this is what the Zionist enemy wants in order to annex the West Bank and Gaza and harp on the theme of the alternative homeland. Consequently, what King Husayn did recently by issuing the Jordanian statement was to bring pressure to bear on the United States, which has not honored its promises to him. It was an attempt to free himself from the pressure which the United States applies to the Arabs, the Palestinians, and Jordanians. Therefore King Husayn is trying to prompt the United States to apply pressure on Israel in the hope that it will improve its terms and give better terms to the Palestinians within the framework of "representation and the right to self-determination."

AL-HAWADITH: But which side in the bilateral relations violated its commitments; was it the Jordanian or the Palestinian side?

Hani al-Hasan: In fact there was no violation of commitments but there was a difference in views over how to formulate a new viewpoint with common denominators that would enable the two sides to go hand in hand. King Husayn can say yes or no as he may wish but Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], being the leader of a political movement and not a head of state, has to refer matters to the Fatah Movement when a certain stage is reached. Fatah has found that the United States has not fulfilled what it said to King Husayn -- that an Israeli withdrawal or a timetable for withdrawal from all Lebanese territory would be reached in March so that it could be followed by a joint Jordanian-Palestinian move. The lack of U.S. credibility prompted the Fatah leadership to take precautions. We submitted a new flexible formula so as to pinpoint the U.S. stand and in order not to take a political step in a vacuum. Dialogue is now going on regarding the new text.

AL-HAWADITH: What is the text?

Hani al-Hasan: We cannot talk about it, so that the dialogue can continue, but it is a flexible text based on "Fes" and adheres to the Arab framework as a means for moving forward. We will see at the coming summit how we can crystallize an Arab viewpoint that will be a guideline for the joint Jordanian-Palestinian move.

AL-HAWADITH: Does this mean that there is no agreement in Arab views on the Fes plan?

Hani al-Hasan: The Arabs have agreed on the Fes plan, which today enjoys the support of all world countries with the exception of the United States and Israel. It was supported by the nonaligned states and Western and Eastern European countries. This in itself is a very important thing. But Fes lacks a mechanism for movement and for this reason the coming summit should devise such a mechanism. We will. Then see if President Reagan moves toward Fes or against it.

AL-HAWADITH: But the Fes plan assigned a role to the Soviet Union, something that Reagan and the U.S. Administration refuse. Will you give Fes a mechanism by abolishing this role?

Hani al-Hasan: The Fes resolutions, in the final analysis, give the Soviet Union a role. Article seven says that the Security Council

should provide international guarantees for the security of all the countries of the area. So the Soviet role is clear. But the mechanism is also a means of pressure so that there is a favorable U.S. stand toward Fes and we obtain clear guarantees that the Americans do not just want to try yet another move but to bring real pressure on Israel to force it to withdraw. Total withdrawal from Lebanon is the test.

In any case, reactions so far indicate that the Americans and the Arabs are moving to save the situation. We Arabs must know how to exploit this situation, which is the task of King Hassan II of Morocco in his capacity as the chairman of the seven-man committee and the Jerusalem committee. In the past few days I have had prolonged talks with his majesty and for this reason the summit meeting was postponed for 2 weeks in order to try to crystallize a unified Arab viewpoint before the summit. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom is, as usual, working quietly to develop the U.S. stand.

AL-HAWADITH: President Ronald Reagan said following the Jordanian announcement on the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks that King Fahd and King Husayn would like his plan to succeed and that they found the Palestinians' demands difficult to achieve. Does this mean that Saudi Arabia might abandon the Fes resolutions?

Hani al-Hasan: It was confirmed to me during my recent contacts that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom adheres to the Fes resolutions. I have also learned this during my meetings with the Moroccan monarch, whose recent moves are strongly supported by the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

There are two concepts for the success of Reagan's plan:

The Arab concept for the success of the U.S. plan is that Reagan should move closer to Fes while the U.S. concept is that Fes should descend to the level of Reagan's plan. The conflict in fact revolves around this point. The United States realizes that we are not in a weak position. The United States, which is about to regain control of the area, realizes that if it does not find just solutions to the Palestinian problem that are acceptable to the Palestinian fighters, the area will never be calm. This, undoubtedly, is an opportunity for the Soviet Union, whose presence, after the Lebanon events, has shrunk. But Andropov's rise to power has put the Middle East on the list of Soviet priorities.

AL-HAWADITH: If you got what you want, if all the parties accepted your terms and Israel withdrew from the West Bank and Gaza, do you believe that the area would then be calm, if no mention is made of the Golan?

Hani al-Hasan: In the paper we submitted to Jordan it is clearly stipulated that Israeli withdrawal should include all the territories Israel occupied in 1967, which include the Golan and Gaza. Undoubtedly, as I have always said, Syrian-Jordanian-Palestinian coordination is the basic link in any future Arab plan. Syria's political weight and the Syrian Army's military strength are a strength for all the Arabs in any future military pressure in order, at least, to stop any new Israeli expansion, particularly since recent Jordanian-Syrian talks made good progress in the exchange of views. We will be very happy for the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement to increase, provided that this rapprochement is three-sided — that is, Syrian-Jordanian-Palestinian — not in order to form an axis in the area but rather to be a dynamic force to advance the Arab situation, since we three are in the same trench.

AL-HAWADITH: Where will the meeting between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat take place, in Jordan or at the summit meeting?

Hani al-Hasan: The meeting between Brother Abu 'Ammar and King Husayn should take place in Jordan because as Jordanians and Palestinians there should be no barriers or mediators between us. We discuss with all the Arabs means of bringing pressure to bear on the United States, not on Jordan.

AL-HAWADITH: If no agreement is reached on Reagan's plan or the Fes plan, will it be possible to revive the French-Egyptian plan?

Hani al-Hasan: We have often tried to revive the French-Egyptian plan because we find it a politically balanced plan; it reflects the balances of power at this stage. We will welcome any move at the Security Council to revive the French-Egyptian plan and we are ready to stand by it and support it, if it remains politically balanced as we know it.

AL-HAWADITH: Your tour of the East European countries was in order to put out feelers to the Soviet Union. What are you hoping of it?

Hani al-Hasan: We hope that the Soviet Union has a positive plan and not just a negative plan. I made this point clear to the Moroccan monarch in my recent meeting with him. I was pleased to find that he is fully aware of the importance of the subject and is convinced that in the final analysis the coming solution could only be of an international character and not just American.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Information Ministers Call for Ending War

GF201338 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The eighth conference of the GCC information ministers has urged Iran and Iraq to accept the efforts being exerted to achieve peace. It also called on the peace-loving powers to continue their good offices to end the war and to support all sincere efforts that are directed toward ending the war and spearheading the capabilities of the two countries confronting the Zionist enemy.

In a final statement issued today at the conclusion of its meetings, which began yesterday, the conference urged the Arab information media to exert its utmost efforts to participate in the process of reviving the energetic capabilities of the Arab nation in confronting the Zionists, who have gone too far in their savage aggression, and in confronting the Zionist expansionist plans, its occupation and disuniting of Arab land, in addition to uprooting its inhabitants and making them homeless.

AL-ANBA': GCC Delegation To Visit Tehran, Baghdad

GF201830 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 18 Apr 83 p 1

[Khalil Baydun dispatch]

[Excerpts] Gulf sources have told AL-ANBA' that the GCC foreign affairs ministers adopted a decision—during their recent unofficial meeting that took place in Dhahran —calling for the formation of a high-ranking GCC delegation. The sources added that this delegation will visit Baghdad and Tehran and undertake a new effort to solve the problem of pollution of the Gulf waters, which has resulted from oil spilling from the Iranian Nowruz oilfield. These sources added that the date and the level of the delegation will be defined in light of the current contacts and consultations among the region countries.

The sources added that what prompted the GCC foreign affairs ministers to undertake such a step is the realization of the gravity of the situation that has resulted from the continuation of the oil spillage and, consequently, from the intensification of the pollution in the Gulf waters and the dangers posed by it to human beings and marine life.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Meets PDRY Counterpart 21 April

GF211440 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0948 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 21 Apr (WAKH) — A meeting was held in Manama this morning between the Bahraini side, led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, and the PDRY side, led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali.

The meeting was attended on the Bahraini side by 'Ali al-Mahrus, director of the Political Department; Salman as-Sabbagh, minister plenipotentiary; 'Abd ar-Rahman Kamal, adviser at the Foreign Ministry; and 'Ali Shams, first secretary. On the PDRY side, the delegation accompanying the foreign affairs minister attended the meeting.

WAKH has learned that during the meeting, the two sides reviewed the development of bilateral relations in view of the meeting between His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the PDRY chairman, in New Delhi during the recent Nonaligned Summit. The two sides expressed satisfaction over these relations and relations among the region countries in general.

The two sides also discussed means of developing economic and trade relations, the current developments in the Gulf region, Arab issues, the forthcoming Arab summit, the Palestinian cause, and developments in the Iraq-Iran war and its repercussions on the region.

The views of the two sides on all issues discussed during the meeting were identical.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister To Visit France 2 May

GF211226 Doha QNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Apr (QNA) — Press reports said here today that Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim, minister of defense, will leave for Paris on 2 May on an official 3-day visit at the invitation of the French Government.

Jean Bressot, the French ambassador in Kuwait, has told the newspaper AS-SIYASAH that during the visit, the talks between the Kuwaiti minister of defense and his French counterpart will focus on strengthening bilateral relations in the military field. The ambassador said: The Kuwaiti defense minister will meet with senior French military officials and will attend military maneuvers in which all kinds of weapons will be used in an area 300 km from Paris.

The newspaper said France and Kuwait are linked with a military cooperation agreement and that they recently agreed that France would sell 12 Mirage planes to Kuwait.

The French ambassador in Kuwait is scheduled to leave for Paris during the next few days to participate in the French-Kuwaiti talks.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Urges Gulf States To Aid Yemen

LD221307 Kuwait KUNA In English 1110 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 22 (KUNA) — Following are excerpts of the editorial published Friday by AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM daily:

The breathtaking tempo of events and developments in the Arab region hardly give is (?time to) note the emergence of new trends and hot currents which are heralding a change in the region's political stance and military balance.

It appears that the same forces influencing conditions in the region in a reverse direction are now behind the new threats faced by our brethren in Yemen, the southern gate of the Arabian Gulf.

If over the past years we had been entirely preoccupied with upgrading the military capability of Arab confrontation states, we are now dutybound to come to the rescue of our Yemeni brethren who are facing the demanding task of building up a solid and effective economic base.

Funds should be earmarked and deduction made from the Gulf assistance program to finance development in Yemen. It is against logic and rationale that the people of Yemen suffer from underdevelopment at the time they are positively contributing and giving without limits to the nation's paramount cause.

Indeed putting the Arab house in order calls for active contribution to [word indistinct] its base and the strengthening of each member in order to resist political and economic temptations. The Gulf states have the special duty of tending to such weak points whose continuity can create soft bellies.

More aid is needed for Yemen's requirements from factories and essential development projects which, if implemented, can keep that dear part of the Arab homeland well protected and immune against external influence and domination.

SAUDI ARABIA

Radio Previews Shultz Visit to Middle East

LD211401 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Analysis by 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Man'i]

[Text] An announcement has been made in Washington to the effect that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz may soon visit a number of states in the Middle East. The announcement came amid complicated Arab and international circumstances, which are a result of several events and developments, most prominent among them the halting of the Palestinian-Jordanian talks. Also prominent among these recent events in the Arab and international arenas is the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and the human losses resulting from this incident, which has indicated to the American Administration that a wave of violence is sweeping the region once again. This, of course, can obstruct American efforts to find an early settlement in bringing about the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon, in order to deal with the Middle East problem, which is really the problem of the Palestinian people.

U.S. President Reagan continues to affirm that his country is still under the obligation to bring about a settlement of the Middle East crisis. Yet this affirmation lacks conviction in view of the intransigent Zionist attitudes that reject all international efforts and initiatives, including that of President Reagan. This is at a time when the U.S. Administration has not exercised any type of pressure on the Israelis to force it to change its inflexible attitudes, which have become a threat to peace and security in the region, and the precursor to a new war in the Middle East.

If the U.S. Administration has become convinced after the halting of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks that President Reagan's initiative faces the danger of oblivion, and that the PLO is fully responsible for the failure of the initiative, reality indicates the contrary. The organization, as is known, did not reject it when it was announced; rather it described it as a new development in the American attitude to the Middle East crisis. It saw some positive aspects in the initiative. Thus, if the PLO rejected the initiative, it did so not because of a desire to reject, but because the initiative ignored the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish its independent state. Regarding the Zionist entity, it rejected the initiative categorically, sparing itself the effort of discussion, and claimed that the initiative threatens the peace efforts in the Middle East. Yet the American Administration did not in the least blame the leaders of that racist entity and did not hold it responsible for the failure of the American initiative, let alone for contributing to this failure.

Generally, although observers hope that the expected tour by Shultz to the region will consolidate the chances of peace in the Middle East — especially since the American Administration made a constructive step in this direction when President Reagan confirmed in a National Day cable of greeting to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, that the U.S. demand that Israel withdraw its forces from the occupied Arab territories means the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Syrian Golan heights — they, that is the observers, believe that Shultz' efforts will clash with the rejection and intransigence with which Israel has grown accustomed to facing any international efforts aimed at the achievement of a just peace in the Middle East.

'UKAZ Says Israel Behind U.S. Embassy Explosion

LD220936 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0712 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Apr (SPA) — Commenting on the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, 'UKAZ emphasized that the Zionist enemy is behind this incident in order to prove that Lebanon is incapable of maintaining security, and the stability and security of all the institutions on its territory. The Zionists also want to pressure the Americans to accept Israel's terms for security in Lebanon; particularly the terms connected with the special role it is demanding for the secessionist Major Sa'd Haddad. 'UKAZ added that the approval of any role to the secessionist Sa'd Haddad in the security arrangements in the south will be a dangerous precedence because this will definitely influence the Syrian position in the Al-Biqa', and will directly harm Lebanon's overall sovereignty over its territory. Moreover, it will also be an excuse for the Israelis to stay in Lebanon, just as Tabah in the Sinai has become an excuse for the Israelis to stay.

'UKAZ referred to U.S. President Reagan's decision to send two new envoys to the Middle East—Lawrence Eagleburger and Nicholas Veliotes—and said that the dispatch of these two

envoys ,in the wake of the bombing of the U.S. Embassy, means, among other things, the intensification of American efforts to give momentum to the Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations so an agreement can be reached for the total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and to cover up the incident of the embassy, which struck at the American Administration. The paper has called on the United States to be sincere and to demonstrate its promises, pledges, and its credibility as a great power with responsibilities in the Middle East; chiefly,the responsibility to pressure the Zionist enemy to accept a just and comprehensive settlement, not only in Lebanon, but also in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

AL-MADINAH on Future Superpower Confrontation

LD221103 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0750 GMT 22 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Apr (SPA) — AL-MADINAH has warned the Arab nation of the gravity of the present situation it is experiencing. It has stated that the tense situation in Lebanon might lead to an actual confrontation with the superpowers on Arab territory, where American involvement is growing following the destruction of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, and that U.S. involvement might open the way for Russian involvement.

It said that the big powers, particularly the United States and the Soviet Union, have directly contributed to many calamities that have befallen the Arab world; particularly when recent efforts by these states, especially America, have failed to achieve any progress toward restoring peace in Lebanon, and withdrawing the Zionist forces from Lebanon.

The paper stressed that the only way to prevent this from happening is by convening an Arab summit conference at which the leaders of this nation would meet and discuss the possibilities ,in total candor and true sincerity, for taking positive action to save what is left of Arab dignity—since the danger is threatening everyone without exception, and all Arab capitals from east to west are threatened by local non-Arab forces—Zionist or Iranian.

The paper stated that it is from this premise that the Kingdom's welcome for convening an Arab summit stems—out of its realization of the importance of such a summit at this stage when danger is surrounding this nation.

President Mubarak Receives Callaghan 21 Apr
NC211207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1149 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received former British Prime Minister James Callaghan who is currently visiting Cairo.

The meeting was attended by British Ambassador in Cairo Michael Weir.

Prime Minister Receives Callaghan
NC211148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today received former British Prime Minister James Callaghan who is currently visiting Cairo.

During the meeting, they exchanged viewpoints on the development in the Middle East crisis and the role that should be played by West European states in order to realize a comprehensive and just peace in the area.

The meeting was attended by the British Ambassador in Cairo Michael Weir.

Callaghan arrived here last night coming from Amman on a 2-day visit to Egypt within the framework of his tour of the area.

Mubarak Resumes Field Inspection Tour 21 Apr
NC211120 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] This morning President Husni Mubarak inaugurated the Abu Sultan electricity generating station in the Isma'iliyah Governorate.

He was received by Minister of Electricity Mahir Abazah, Minister of Insurance Dr Amal 'Uthman, Chairman of Suez Canal Authority Mashhur Ahmad Mashhur, engineers' doyen 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, Isma'iliyah Governor 'Abd al-Mun'im 'Imarah, and the political, popular, and executive leaderships of Isma'iliyah governorate.

The president inspected the various units of the station and listened to the officials' explanation.

Mubarak Receives Message From Sultan Qabus
NC211344 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a message from his majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman on his recent talks with U.S. officials during his visit to the United States, in particular on the Middle East question and the situation in the area. Mubarak received the message during a meeting this afternoon with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ysuf al-'Alawi, who is currently visiting Cairo within the framework of a tour during which he visited Lebanon and Jordan. Attending the meeting were head of the president's office for political affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz and Omani Ambassador in Cairo Ghalib Jubran.

Mubarak Invited to June ILO Conference in Geneva
NC211217 Cairo MENA in English 1212 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, April 21 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received Francis Blanchard, director general of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Blanchard had arrived here yesterday to invite President Mubarak to be the guest of honour this year at the International Labour Conference due to open in June in Geneva.

Prime Minister Receives Gabonese Transport Minister
NC211206 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1151 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — This afternoon, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din received the Gabonese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport, Georges Rawiri, and his accompanying delegation.

Minister of Transport Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, who attended the meeting, has stated that the meeting touched upon means of developing the technical cooperation between Egypt and Gabon in the field of transport and communications in addition to providing Gabon with Egyptian expertise in this domain.

Mr Rawiri arrived here 2 days ago on a 5-day visit to Egypt.

'Ali Cable to Lebanon's Salim Condemns Explosion
NC212027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut, 21 Apr (MENA) — The Arab Republic of Egypt has condemned the explosion of a booby-trapped vehicle at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut last Monday and considers it an action contrary to all human values and principles.

This came in a cable of condolences which Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim received today from Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. The text of the cable follows:

I have received with profound sorrow and grief the news of the criminal attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut in which many innocent people from fraternal Lebanon and the United States were killed. I extend to the families of the victims sincere condolences in the name of the Egyptian people, who condemn such actions which are contrary to all human values and principles.

'Ali Confers With Omani Minister 21 Apr
NC211459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1447 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with Omani

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting dealt with the results of President Husni Mubarak's tour of Asia, the results of Sultan Qabus' visit to the United States, the developments in the Middle East situation, particularly the Lebanese and Palestinian issues, and bilateral relations.

Omani Miniser Leaves 21 Apr

NC211545 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Apr (MENA) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi left Cairo this afternoon following a 1-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during which he delivered a message from Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to President Husni Mubarak. He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Ghali Statement on Sinai Liberation Anniversary

NC220928 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali declared that the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in April last year is regarded as a triumph of Egyptian diplomacy and also of negotiation, dialogue, and the principle of settling disputes peacefully, in accordance with UN principles.

In a statement to the radio correspondent, on the occasion of the first anniversary of liberating Sinai, Dr Ghali said that Egypt had hoped that this triumph could have been a precedent for realizing other victories with regard to the solution of the Palestinian issue and regarding the Syrian front. But these triumphs have not been realized because Israel has refused to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza and has rejected the establishment of full autonomy as stipulated in the peace treaty.

He added that the negotiations which were held for several years did not achieve Egypt's objective, namely the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. That does not mean that we should give up the diplomatic efforts for reaching a comprehensive peace in the area, but rather that diplomatic efforts should continue.

Dr Ghali affirmed that Egypt will continue its contacts with the U.S., Israeli, and Palestinian sides in order to accelerate action and realize peace which remains Egypt's main objective regardless of all the difficulties.

Foreign Relations Committee Statement on Israeli Issues

NC211353 Cairo MENA in English 1340 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, April 21 (MENA) — The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee underlined today that Egypt under President Husni Mubarak is exerting efforts to realize peace and restore the Arab rights by settling the Lebanese problem and maintaining the integrity of the Lebanese territory.

Egypt also encourages the dialogue between King Husayn of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization and is urging the United States to put pressures on Israel to stop building settlements in the occupied territories.

This came in the committee's statement which was issued today on the occasion of the first anniversary of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Sinai which took place on April 25.

AL-AHRAM Hints Israel Behind U.S. Embassy Blast

NC220806 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In an article today, AL-AHRAM discusses the criminal bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. At the outset of its article, AL-AHRAM asks: Who benefits from this crime?

The paper then says: The parties to the conflict inside Lebanon are many. Despite this fact, can it not be said that Israel has more interest in this crime, more than any other party? AL-AHRAM further asks: Will the results of an estrangement between Lebanon and the United States not benefit Israel more than any other side?

AL-AHRAM emphasizes that there are serious U.S. efforts to achieve Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. It says that in its first comment, the Israeli paper MA'ARIV accused Syrian intelligence of planning this crime to undermine the political atmosphere within the United States. AL-AHRAM then asks: Is it difficult for Israeli intelligence, which has an army and thousands of spies in Lebanon, to perpetrate such a crime?

The paper further says: The United States seeks to force Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. Who benefits from blasting these efforts and from committing the U.S. Embassy crime?

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: While searching for the criminal who blasted its embassy, the United States must never disregard who is the biggest beneficiary from the bombing operation.

AL-AHRAM Notes Israeli Gain

NC221042 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 22 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today on the incident at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, AL-AHRAM asks: What do the suspicious organizations which have claimed responsibility for bombing the U.S. Embassy in Beirut mean by declaring that all of the imperialist presence in Lebanon, including the multinational force, will be their targets, without making any reference to the Israeli occupation forces?

The paper further asks: How can this ugly action have an alleged connection with the Lebanese negotiations such as urging the U.S. side to accelerate the negotiations, when it is the Israeli side alone which creates new obstacles.

What use is it to say that blowing up the U.S. Embassy blasts Reagan's initiative as well when this initiative has been totally rejected by Israel, has not yet been candidly accepted by the Arab side in general, and is rejected by the Palestinian side in particular?

The paper expresses its resentment that Israel should immediately use this incident as a pretext for new security guaranteesand that its foreign minister should stress the need for new security guarantees against terrorism along its border with Lebanon when the target of this terrorism was not an Israeli institution.

AL-AHRAM adds: Should it not arouse suspicion that this horrible incident has taken place at a time when Israel has become the target of recent international accusations in the case of the poisoning of Arab residents of the occupied West Bank — possibly in order that the debris of the embassy should fall on the traces of this case to blot them out or have them forgotten?

In conclusion, the paper says: If time has become an important and pressing factor in the Arab issue, as confirmed by all, vis-a-vis the intensified and continuing tactic of building settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, then in whose interest is time being wasted by preoccupying the U.S. Government with the effects of the incident inside the Congress where calls are made for withdrawing U.S. forces from the multinational force and supporters of a U.S. withdrawal from participation in solving the issue are encouraged?

Iranian 'Naval Target' Destroyed 21 April

JN211531 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1519 GMT 21 Apr 83

(Text) Baghdad, 21 Apr (INA) — Iraq has announced that an Iranian naval target was sunk at 1257 today as it was attempting to approach the Iranian oilfield of Nowruz in the Arab Gulf.

Communique No 1,068 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command noted that an Iraqi naval force spotted the enemy naval target this morning as it was trying to approach the Nowruz oilfield. Our naval force pursued the target, and destroyed it with a direct hit from naval aircraft.

On the results of the Iraqi forces' activities against the Iranian enemy in the various operational sectors last night and today, the communique affirmed that 16 Iranians were killed and 1 captured during a raid the Iraqi force carried out against the enemy positions in the Maysan operational sector. Two observation posts and two arms depots were also destroyed.

The communique added that an Iraqi unit found two Iranian vehicles and a quantity of light-caliber weapons that were abandoned by the enemy during the glorious battles of Faqih. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,068 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our able armed forces, while continuing their daring activities against the ignorant Khomeiinite clique, confirm their ceaseless heroic preparations to defend Iraq and safeguard its noble land and victorious gains. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. Our heroic naval force this morning spotted an enemy naval target approaching the Nowruz oilfield. Our naval force, which pursued the target, dispatched aircraft which, at 1257 hours, succeeded in scoring a direct hit to the target and destroying it. Flames could be seen with the naked eye rising from the destroyed naval target. All of our naval units and its valiant aircraft, praise be to God, returned safely to base.

2. A group of enemy personnel was sighted opposite our forward positions in the central operational sector. Our forces attacked the group, killing 10 and destroying 2 observation posts.

3. One of our forward units raided enemy positions opposite our forces in the Maysan operational sector, killing two and capturing one, who was evacuated to the rear in the same sector. Also, one of our forward units found two vehicles and a quantity of light-caliber weapons that were abandoned by the enemy during the glorious Faqih battles.

4. Four were killed and two arms depots destroyed in the area east of Basra.

5. The reckless enemy today intermittently shelled Mandali and its environs, damaging a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 April 1983

Daily on Baghdad 21 April Car Explosions

JN220818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi newspaper today said that a strong Iraq will continue to call for a just peace with Iran. Meanwhile, it will continue to deal crushing blows to the aggressors if they persist in their expansionist dreams and ambitions to occupy Iraq.

In its editorial, ATH-THAWRAH stressed that this principled Iraqi stand has not changed and will not change as a result of the Iranian regime's hostile acts against Iraq's security and sovereignty, as well as against the Iraqi people's right to live in their homeland in the way they desire.

It added: The day will come when the Tehran rulers will be convinced that their aggressive war is futile, that steel doors stand in the face of their ambitions, and that Iraq is stronger than they imagine or is depicted to them. It is then that they will be forced to return to their senses and regret all the losses and destruction they inflicted on their people.

The paper indicated that the Iranian regime's henchmen, who detonated two cars in Baghdad yesterday, have given every Iraqi a new reason to repulse the criminals and destroy their wicked intentions as punishment for their boundless, blind grudge.

The paper stressed that this crime will not pass unpunished, and revenge must be taken for the citizens who were victims of the Khomeyniite clique's criminal acts.

Islamic Group Calls for End to Media Campaigns

JN201758 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Apr (INA) — The Peace and Reconciliation Committee between Iraq and Iran has expressed the hope that President Saddam Husayn will stop media campaigns. An eight-member committee formed by the popular Islamic Conference, which concluded its meetings here last Sunday, was empowered to make immediate contacts with the two countries' leaderships to end the war and hold direct negotiations for solving outstanding problems.

In a cable to President Saddam Husayn, the committee's chairman Dr Ma'ruf ad-Dawalibi said that the committee hopes that the media campaigns will stop while reconciliatory attempts are being made, and until the committee makes contact with the other side in order to make a similar request.

Iraq To Attend Muscat Meeting on Oil Slick

JN220922 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Apr (INA) — Iraq will participate in an emergency ministerial meeting to be held by the Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment [ROPME] in Muscat on Tuesday.

Health Minister Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Allush told INA that he received an invitation from the Omani communications minister, who is the official in charge of protecting the Omani environment. The Iraqi minister said that Iraq has agreed to attend the meeting because it supports all sincere and peaceful efforts to close the Iranian Nowruz oilfield and remove the pollution of the Arab Gulf waters while preserving Iraq's security and territorial integrity.

Baghdad Cites Kurdish Democratic Party Statement

NC211155 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Message by Dr 'Abdorrahman Qasemlu, secretary general of Iran's Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] to international organizations and personalities — 14 April 1983 — issued in Kordestan]

[Text] Dear friends: O humanitarian and freedom-wanting organizations and persons in all countries: The war by Khomeyni's regime against the oppressed people of Kordestan has been going on for 4 years now. It has been 4 years now that Kordestan's cities and villages are the targets of artillery, tanks, helicopters, and Phantoms of Khomeyni's regime. So far, thousands of defenseless people of Kordestan have been killed and wounded, and the houses of many others have been destroyed. Tens of thousands of villagers have left their homes and have sought refuge in the mountains because of the fierce attacks by Khomeyni's armed forces. Kordestan's economic siege continues. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is prohibiting the entry of medicine and textbooks into Kordestan.

The only answer given by Khomeyni's regime to the just demands of the people of Kordestan, which can be summed up by democracy for Iran and autonomy for Kordestan, is artillery and bombs. The government of the clergymen's Islamic Republic has not only destroyed all political freedoms in Iran, but it does not attach the least respect to human rights. There are no signs of political, civil, and individual freedoms in the clerical regime, and our homeland has turned into a large prison for all nationalities, religious minorities, and all respectable persons who are not prepared to accept the medieval despotism of theocracy. Prisons, torture, executions, and the denigration of humanbeings — this is what Khomeyni's regime brought to the Iranian people. It is under such conditions that the people of Kordestan have risen to defend their freedom and the freedom of all Iran, and they are heroically resisting the attacks by Khomeyni's bloody regime in an unequal war.

Now that the fifth spring after the victory of the Iranian people's revolution over the antipopular monarchy has started, Khomeyni's regime has gathered 200,000 of its armed forces and has resorted to a vast attack against the liberated areas of Kordestan. In this attack, Khomeyni's regime is using all types of heavy weapons — from artillery to helicopters and Phantoms. With a glance at the new attack during the past few weeks, it becomes very clear that contrary to its claims, this time Khomeyni's regime is not only fighting against the KDP, political organizations, and the Peshmerga, but its goal is the annihilation of the entire Kurdish population. So far, 129 defenseless people — women, children, and old men of 12 villages whose names are included in the attached list [not read] — were massacred by the regime's armed forces. Khomeyni's regime has overtly started the genocide of the Kurdish people. Along with the massacre of villagers, the execution of defenseless people in Kordestan's cities has increased, and since the start of the attack in late March, more than 72 people have been executed in the cities of Bukan, Saqqez, Sanandaj, and Sardasht. This is at a time when the KDP treats the prisoners and POW's very humanely, according to international norms and the Geneva Convention. The majority of those who are arrested in Kordestan by Khomeyni's revolution guards are neither armed nor do they have a record of having participated in struggles. They are immediately executed after their arrest. Instead of sending wounded Kurdish strugglers to hospitals for treatment, Khomeyni's revolution guards execute them.

The people of Kordestan, which is under heavy economic, political, and military siege have no alternative but to continue their struggle to defend their freedom and respect. They will, until their last breath, defend human values and, first and foremost, freedom. However, they expect freedom-wanting and humanitarian organizations in all countries, international organizations—from the UN Human Rights Committee to the International Red Cross and Amnesty International — and all personalities who have undertaken the duty of defending the rights of humans and humanitarianism, to come to their assistance. The oppressed people of Kordestan want you:

1. To raise your voice of protest against the inhuman crimes committed by Khomeyni's regime; to condemn the genocide of the Kurdish people; and to take the bloodthirsty criminals and leaders of the Islamic Republic to international tribunals.

2. To come to the aid of the people of Kordestan. Send as much medicine, clothing, foodstuff, and funds as you can for the Kurdish people. You can send this aid through international organizations, representations of the KDP, and the National Resistance Council abroad.

3. To send a delegation to Iranian Kordestan to investigate the genocide of the Kurdish people being committed by Khomeyni's regime and to see, on the spot, the unprecedented crimes committed by this regime.

4. To ask your governments to refuse to sell arms and war materiel to Khomeyni's regime.

Dear friends, condemning the crimes committed by Khomeyni's regime and by assisting the people of Kordestan, will help prevent a genocide, the objective of which is to completely annihilate a nation and an old culture. The people of Kordestan will continue their struggles, and undoubtedly they will bring Khomeyni's regime to its knees. However, by expressing solidarity, you will have performed both your humanitarian duty and have helped an oppressed nation which is defending its existence.

[Signed] 'Abdorrahman Qasemlu, secretary general of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran, 14 April 1983, Kordestan of Iran.

Joint Military Talks With Lebanese Close in Amman

Final Session Held

JN211806 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The final session of the Jordanian-Lebanese talks, which began on 17 April, was held at the General Command of the Jordanian Armed Forces yesterday morning. Staff Lieutenant General Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, led the Jordanian side, and 'Isam Khuri, Lebanese national defense minister, led the Lebanese side.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed and assessed points of discussion and agreements reached by the two sides on mutual cooperation, and on assisting fraternal Lebanon to overcome the crisis through which it is now passing. The commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces emphasized Jordan's support for Lebanon and decision to continue to provide moral support, as well as political and military aid. He also conveyed to the Lebanese side the willingness of His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, to assist the Lebanese Government to rebuild the Lebanese Armed Forces and restore their full capability. His Majesty King Husayn ordered that a number of military vehicles, equipment, and ammunition be granted to Lebanon,and also approved training cooperation in the various Jordanian military institutes.

The Lebanese side thanked His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, for his initiative and the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces for his invitation and concern with the Lebanese delegation. It also expressed its deep appreciation to the Jordanian Armed Forces and confidence that fields of cooperation between the Jordanian and Lebanese armies are numerous, and that such sincere cooperation among fraternal and friendly countries is the best way to strengthen the bases of independence and national security.

Delegation Leaves

JN211930 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Lebanese National Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri and an accompanying military delegation left Amman this evening at the end of a visit of several days to Jordan, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and a number of ranking officials.

Joint Statement Issued

NC211916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1602 GMT 21 Apr 83

["Text" of the Lebanese-Jordanian joint statement broadcast simultaneously from Beirut and Amman on 21 April, on the visit made by Lebanese Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri to Jordan]

[Text] The concluding session of the Jordanian-Lebanese discussions was held yesterday morning, Wednesday, 20 April 1983, at the Jordanian Armed Forces General Command. These discussions began on 16 April. The Jordanian side was headed by Lieutenant General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed forces. Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri headed the Lebanese side.

During this meeting, a review and assessment were made of the points of discussion, of what the two sides have achieved in the domain of joint cooperation and of the aid to fraternal Lebanon to enable it to surmount its present difficult ordeal.

At this meeting, the Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief emphasized Jordan's standing alongside Lebanon and the continued extension of moral, political, and military backing. He conveyed to the Lebanese side the desire of His Majesty King Husayn, the Jordanian Armed Forces supreme commander, to help the Lebanese Government in the sphere of rebuilding the Lebanese Armed Forces to enable them to recover their full capabilities. His Majesty has graciously presented a grant [fi taqdimi hibatin] comprising armor [aliyat] and military equipment and ammunition, in addition to cooperation in the domain of training in the various Jordanian military institutes.

The Lebanese side has expressed thanks for the gesture of His Majesty King Husayn, the Jordanian Armed Forces supreme commander. It also thanked the commander in chief of the Armed Forces for his invitation and for the interest that he has taken in the Lebanese delegation. The delegation expressed its deep appreciation of the Jordanian Armed forces. It also voiced confidence that the avenues for cooperation between the Jordanian and Lebanese Armies are wide and numerous, and that such a sincere cooperation between the two brotherly countries is the sound course leading to the entrenchment of the foundations of independence and to the consolidation of national security.

Minister Khuri and the delegation accompanying him are scheduled to arrive [in Beirut] this evening.

AR-RA'Y Decries Superpowers' Inaction in Mideast

JN211202 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Our Issue and the Hegemony Game," AR-RA'Y says:

The escalated Israeli settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territories have raised many questions about the real intentions of the two superpowers and the European community toward the region. The U.S. failure to put an end to these activities, even as a preliminary step toward revitalizating the peace process, arouses perplexity, especially since the Israeli entity is entirely dependent on U.S. aid. It is obvious that the continuation of this situation means the devouring of the land, while the U.S. Administration has not done any real thing to put an end to the devouring operation, and it has not yet succeeded in proving its credibility in Lebanon. All that this administration has presented is an initiative whose positive points were not

rejected by the Arabs, while Israel rejected the whole initiative. Thus time passes and the devouring of the land continues.

On the other hand, it also seems as if the USSR prefers to wait as long as the U.S. initiative still exists in the arena. This waiting does not account for the devouring of the land,although the Soviets consider Brezhnev's initiative proof that they presented what they can. Meanwhile, the Soviet initiative was welcomed by the Arabs, rejected by Israel, and neglected by the United States. Thus time passes and the devouring of the land continues.

AR-RA'Y adds: The real outcome of all this is that neither the United States, the USSR, nor the European community has doneanything to put an end to the Israeli settlement activities in the Palestinian territory; a matter for which there is no convincing justification, because nobody is convinced for one moment that the two superpowers and the European community are incapable of putting and end to the Israeli arrogance.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The world power struggle in the region means disregard for its peoples' interests. This is the dangerous game of playing with fire. It must be affirmed that the two players of this game will find neither support nor welcome. Perhaps all this will make the Arabs recall the appeals by Jordan to build their intrinsic power and to be independent and able to handle their own issue, and keep their region away from the game of world power struggle and outside hegemony.

U.S. Reportedly Has Information on Embassy Explosion

NC211830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpts] It has been learned that two investigations are proceeding together with the rescue operations — the first is American and the second is Lebanese. Informed sources say that the U.S. side is in possession of tentative information regarding the side which carried out the explosion. These sources did not wish to reveal further details in this connection.

Lebanese diplomatic sources refused to point to the perpetrators before the investigation is completed, because the explosion operation which took place last Monday is not easily placed within a specific framework before finding tangible evidence.

The sources say the U.S. reaction is the subject of study at the highest levels in Washington, particularly in the White House and the Pentagon, because this operation has two aims — the first political and the second security.

The sources add that with regard to the political aim, the operation was directed against U.S. policy in Lebanon and the area and specifically aimed at frustrating President Reagan's initiative on Lebanon and the Middle East. With regard to the second aim — security — the operation broke through the security measures taken at the U.S. Embassy building and its perimeter, which employ the most modern means of survaillance and protection.

While talking about embassy security, we point out here that strict security measures have been taken around the Saudi and Jordanian Embassies and around the embassies of the states participating in the multinational force.

Mission To Accompany U.S. Dead to United States

NC220922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon has met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and discussed with him the arrangements for transporting the bodies [of the U.S.] citizens killed in the U.S. Embassy explosion to the United States.

Minister Salim has stated that the Lebanese Government has decided to have a diplomatic and military mission accompany the bodies of the U.S. victims to the United States. The mission will consist of Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk and Higher Defense Council Secretary General Brigadier General Nabil Quraytim.

Minister Salim has asked the Lebanese Embassy in Washington to send cables of condolences to the families of the victims.

Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad visited U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon in Al-Yarzi yesterday evening and offered his condolences for the victims of the criminal explosion incident.

Security Measures Around Embassies Intensified

NC220927 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The Army and Internal Security Forces have intensified the security arrangements and adopted appropriate measures around some of the embassies to preclude attacks against them.

The Army Command has issued an order banning the parking of cars and trucks near the French, British, Italian, Saudi Arabian, and Jordanian Embassies in Beirut.

Lebanese Front Leaders Discuss Embassy Explosion

NC201548 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] At its weekly meeting convened before noon today, the Lebanese Front focused its interest on the explosion at the American Embassy and its implications.

After the meeting, [Former] President Camille Sham'un said: The fact that most of the victims were Americans furnishes evidence that a strong side had masterminded and implemented the plan. Through this incident, this side wants to directly harm the Americans and the U.S. Middle East policy.

President Camille Sham'un was asked whether he expected a U.S. reaction following the incident. He answered: President Reagan's stance has not weakened — absolutely not! On the contrary, this stance shows determination, activity, and willpower. However, because the United States is the strongest state in the world, it is imperative that the United States take the appropriate face-saving steps following an incident of such magnitude.

President Camille Sham'un said: I believe that, had the U.S. security departments been responsible for security at the embassy, these departments would have taken the necessary preventive measures and this serious matter would not have occurred. At any rate, we hope that this incident will be the last of the calamities that have befallen Lebanon. Therefore, it is incumbent on us to take the precautions needed for Lebanon's safety and for its territory's safety.

He added: The time has come for the conclusion of the negotiations and for the return of normal life to the country. There can be no normal life except through the termination of the negotiations on the one hand and through the completion of the foreign forces' withdrawal on the other. Consequently, the Lebanese Army will become the sole quarter responsible for security.

In conclusion President Camille Sham'un was asked whether he believes that, following the embassy incident, the United States will move from the role of a persuasive mediator to that of an effective partner in the negotiations. He said: At this time, the United States is a weak partner, but we want it to be a strong partner that stands for justice — no more and no less.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil asserted that the conflict now raging between Washington and Moscow is a subversive [mukharrib]

one reflecting on the situation in several areas of the world. [He said]: There can be no doubt that subversion is an art in itself in the course of which all the parties to subversion use all kinds of modern technology, as if subversion is a school in itself.

The Phalangist leader added: Therefore, we request those friends of ours who mean well for Lebanon to help Lebanon so it will be able to avert the tragedies which arise from such strife. The best service that can be done to us is to tackle this strife and to remove it from this country following the sufferings of 8 years — sufferings which no other country has endured. We are very surprised that the largest world power now represented in Lebanon, namely, the United States, whose units are serving with the multinational force with France, Italy, and Britain, has not hitherto been able to impose security and help Lebanon impose its legitimate authority and recover its sovereignty — and this is if we do not disregard the peacekeeping forces which have been in the south for several years.

Salim Receives Telephone Calls From Habib, Tuwayni

NC211211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today received a telephone call from U.S. envoy Habib during which they exchanged views on the talks which the U.S. envoy has had in Israel. Envoy Habib told Minister Salim that he will return to Israel this afternoon to discuss with Israeli officials the problems facing the negotiations and that he will then return to Beirut bringing with him the Israeli reply to his proposals.

Minister Salim has also received a telephone call in this respect from Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayi, general coordinatior of the negotiations

Spokesman on Lack of Progress at Negotiations

NC211606 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The session of negotiations ended at Khaldah a few minutes ago with a statement which will now be read on behalf of the Lebanese side by delegation spokesman Dr Dawud as-Sayigh. So, to Khaldah:

[Begin As-Sayigh recording] Today we faced difficult stances and we cannot say we have achieved progress. This is particularly true because it is impossible for Lebanon to accept the positions on the security arrangements.

As soon as these differences appeared, the heads of the three delegations and the chairmen of the military committees met in camera throughout the afternoon. Immediately afterward, it transpired that deep differences still remained over subjects (?related to the security arrangements) and over demands which Lebanon cannot possibly accept in view of the fact that they run counter to Lebanon's sovereignty. However, negotiations will (?undoubtedly) be resumed on Monday. [end recording]

U.S. envoy Philip Habib was absent from today's negotiations. Habib will go to Israel later to resume his efforts aimed at narrowing the gap of differences over essential points.

Eagleberger, Veliotes Arrive in Beirut 22 April

NC220840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Two U.S. planes, one military and the other civilian, landed at Beirut airport at 0910 today. U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Eagleberger and Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs Nicholas Veliotis and an accompanying delegation disembarked. They were met by Foreign Minister Elie Salim, Presidential Advisor Wadi' Haddad, Ambassador Dillon, the Marines commander and some U.S. Embassy staff.

The Marines adopted stringent measures while escorting the delegation.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Eagleberger, Veliotes

NC221230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this morning received U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleberger and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotes in the presence of Foreign Minister Elie Salim, Dr Wadi' Haddad and U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon.

In his name and in the name of the Lebanese Government and people, President al-Jumayyil offered condolences for the innocent victims who fell in the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. He emphasized the Lebanese Government's resolve to find the criminals and punish them severely as well as its determination to create the necessary security atmosphere to protect the Lebanese citizens and all those who are residing legally on Lebanese territory. He expressed the government's determination to provide security to the diplomatic missions and members of the diplomatic corps by strengthening the Lebanese Army, the Internal Security Forces and the public security forces, by establishing the authority of the Lebanese state on all Lebanese territory and by having Lebanon assume all responsibilities on Lebanese territory, particularly the security responsibility.

VOAL: National Resistance Attacks Israeli Patrol

NC211802 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance carried out a new operation near the Ar-Rashidiyah Camp in Tyre this afternoon. We have received reports from the south that an Israeli patrol was ambushed by the Lebanese National Resistance near the Ar-Rashidiyah Camp (?police post). Rocket and machinegun fire was opened at the patrol, burning a vehicle and killing and injuring an unspecified number of Zionist soldiers. The Israeli forces immediately cut the international road in the area and set

up a checkpoint while some Israeli soldiers searched the area and indiscriminately opened fire in the air.

Iranians Reportedly Training Gunmen in Tripoli

NC211921 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] According to security reports received by the Voice of Lebanon from the north this afternoon, a new organization has been established in Tripoli comprising a number of local organizations aimed at unifying their military forces. Iranian officers who arrived in the city a few days ago have begun training the military elements of these organizations in Abu Samrah locality. The Iranians established their headquarters in the American Girls School in Az-Zahiriyah locality. The reports say this training is preparatory to a possible security explosion in Tripoli. Intensive contacts are currently taking place to prevent such an explosion.

Beirut-Damascus Flights Suspended 21 April

NC220736 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The Lebanese authorities have requested the Syrian authorities to suspend the flights between Beirut and Damascus because of the atmosphere in the Al-Biqa' area. These flights ceased effective last night after the Syrian authorities responded to the official Lebanese request.

Nasirite Popular Organization Official Killed

NC220704 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Muhammad al-Qanawati, the aide de camp of Mustafa Sa'd, the secretary general of the Popular Nasirite Organization, was killed in Sidon yesterday. It has been learned that a gunman shot him using a pistol fitted with a silencer inside a hall which belonged to the victim.

In the township of Dayr az-Zahrani, Muhammad at-Tufayli was killed and Hasan Ibrahim Tufayli was injured when an anti-armor shell exploded while they were playing with it.

AD-DUSTUR: Lebanese Defense Minister To Visit U.S., France

JN220906 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Apr 83 p 18

[Text] Amman, AD-DUSTUR — The AD-DUSTUR correspondent has learned that Lebanese National Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri will visit the United States and France at the beginning of next month for talks with the two countries' officials on rebuilding the Lebanese Army.

President Receives Message From Soviet Leadership
JN211822 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a message from the Soviet leadership. The Soviet ambassador in Damascus forwarded the message during his meeting with the president this morning.

Al-Asad Exchanges Notes With Algerian President
JN211338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] In Damascus, President Hafiz al-Asad has received a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. Algerian envoy Al-Akhdar al-Ibrahimi, who conveyed the message, was handed a reply message to President Bendjedid from President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks revolved around the situation in the region and issues of mutual concern.

Syria, Lebanon Stop Damascus-Beirut Flights
JN211801 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris on 21 April — recorded]

[Excerpt] I have a news report that will not please airline passengers who commute between Damascus and Beirut. The report says: An official Syrian source told our radio today that, upon the request of the Lebanese Government, it was decided, as of last night, to ban [Syrian and Lebanese] passenger flights between the two capitals in both directions. However, other world airlines will be able to continue their flights between the two capitals.

The Lebanese Government has so far given no reason for its measure, to which the Syrian Government has immediately complied.

Damascus on Israeli Military Exercises in Golan
JN211211 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Occupied Golan — In the occupied Golan, the Zionist occupation forces today are still carrying out provocative military exercises against our kinfolk in the occupied Syrian heights. The exercises consist of combat training with live fire and explosions. The enemy sources have given the impression that these exercises are part of what they term civil defense training.

Meanwhile, Menahem Begin has again announced that his government intends to carry out the actual annexation of the occupied Golan Heights. He said that the annexation law, which was enacted 2 and 1/2 years ago, will continue.

All this has taken place amid reports from all sources confirming that Israel is preparing for aggression against our country. Tension is also escalating in the Al-Biqa' region due to enemy military reinforcements and concentrations on the lines of contact.

Damascus Cites Soviet Daily on Israeli Plans
JN212145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow — SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA today warned that Israel intends to launch a new aggression on Syria soon in an attempt to make it give up its independent national policy and leave the Palestinians to their fate. The paper said that following the failure of the Reagan plan, Washington and Tel Aviv intend to deal a blow to Syria to crush all Arab hopes of regaining their usurped rights and the territories that were seized by force.

The Soviet paper pointed out that the invasion forces are building a network of permanent, fortified military positions on the heights adjacent to the Syrian border, and have also sent reinforcements of tanks and armored cars to the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the Israeli Air Force is roaming the skies in provocative and reconnaisance flights over Lebanese territories and Palestinian camps. The paper noted that the enemy forces have built two military airfields for their planes in the Lebanese areas of Ad-Damur and 'Ayn Zhalta.

In a commentary, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA said that Israel is procrastinating on the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, while Washington is seeking to establish a foothold in that Arab country for many years to come. Washington is planning to increase the number of U.S. military units within UNIFIL, the paper said.

In conclusion, the Soviet paper called on the Arab states to close their ranks and resist imperialist-Zionist expansion in the region.

Information Minister Receives UN Delegation
JN211745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad received an eight-member UN press delegation in his office this afternoon. The delegation is currently touring a number of Arab countries to familiarize itself with the facts of the Arab-Zionist conflict.

The information minister outlined the basic principles of Syrian policy, which stresses the need to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, to curb the fascist, expansionist Israeli forces, to liberate occupied territories, and to regain the Palestinian Arab people's full rights, including their right to return, to self-determination, and to establish an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. The information minister also explained the nature of the fascist, expansionist structure of Israel and its Zionist ideology. He described the U.S. policy in the Middle East as imbalanced and biased.

Ahmad pointed out that Syria's policy is eager to enhance solidarity and rejects any form of U.S. hegemony over the region. Syria's policy considers the destruction of the arrogance of the fascist Israeli forces to be the real beginning of a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in the region.

The information minister also spoke about the bestial Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He called for immediate, unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. He added that no one in the world can bestow a medal on the aggressor. The information minister also called on the international community to support the just Arab cause, to face Zionsit terrorism, and to punish the Israeli Government for its crimes.

Khaldah Talks Continue Amid Disagreements

Little Progress Noted

TA211543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Report from Khaldah by Me'ir Einstein]

[Text] Today has been the longest day of deliberations in the Israeli-Lebanese talks. This morning at 1030 another round of talks began, and they have not yet concluded. However, it would be difficult to infer from this that progress has really been made, although — as one Lebanese journalist told us — at least they are talking, and this is worth noting.

On the agenda today are the following topics: The political committee is discussing the status and immunity to be given to the Israeli and Lebanese liaison offices after an agreement is reached; and the military committee is discussing the incorporation of Major Haddad's forces within the Lebanese Army units that will be deployed in southern Lebanon as part of the security arrangements.

No progress has yet been made on the three main points of dispute in regard to the security arrangements. They are: Maj Haddad's status; the joint patrols in southern Lebanon; and the incorporation of UNIFIL in the security arrangements.

The head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, said today: The deliberations are proceeding in a good atmosphere. Israeli delegation spokesman Avi Pazner, on the other hand, again emphasized that the explosion that occurred in the U.S. Embassy in Beirut makes it incumbent upon Israel to aspire for security arrangements that would guarantee its northern border.

[Begin Pazner recording] You know that for us, Maj Haddad's presence at the head of his men in southern Lebanon is a precondition for withdrawal and an arrangement as far as we are concerned. Furthermore, we will insist on this point until we reach it because of what happened in Beirut 2 days ago. This awful tragedy of the sabotage in the U.S. Embassy with its scores of victims merely serves to highlight the need for appropriate security arrangements in the south, and we will insist on this until we get those arrangements. [end recording]

'Severe Differences' Remain

TA211625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Another round of talks between Israel and Lebanon ended in Khaldah today, south of Beirut. No progress was made.

Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that there were severe [kashim] differences of opinion in the military committee between Israel and Lebanon on the subjects concerning Sa'd Haddad's status, the role of UNIFIL forces, the joint patrols, and the boundary of the security strip. The delegations heads intervened in the military committee's discussions, but were unable to bridge the differences of opinion.

Summary of 21 Apr Talks

TA211818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Bitter differences of opinion surfaced today between Israel and Lebanon at the talks in Khaldah on all the issues related to the security arrangments. Here is a wrapup of today's talks in Khaldah by our correspondent Me'ir Einstein:

[Begin recording] [Einstein] The deliberations in Khaldah lasted 7 hours today, but apparently when the talks take longer, the conclusion is that there are difficulties in the negotiations. At the end of the deliberations, we did not hear today the nearly routine announcement — to which we have become accustomed in the last few weeks — that further progress was made.

Today sharp differences emerged in the military committee that discussed the overall issues pertaining to the security arrangements: the security strip, Major Haddad's status, the incorporation of UNIFIL in the security arrangements, and joint patrols. Although the deliberations focused on these issues, they were difficult and there were differences of opinion that necessitated changes in the format of the afternoon deliberations. The differences in the military opinion called for the participation of the delegation heads in special session with the members of the military committee. However, even the participation of Draper, Kimche, and Fattal could not effect the desired turnabout.

Sources in the Israeli delegation expressed deep dismay about the fact that the Lebanese reneged on verbal agreements [sikumim] reached in earlier deliberations in connection with the security arrangements. However, despite the deadlock today at the end of the deliberations, the spokesman for the Israeli delegation, Avi Pazner, expressed his hope that the gaps are bridgeable:

[Pazner] I very much hope that they are bridgeable. At any rate, we attribute topmost priority and significance to the security arrangements in southern Lebanon, and naturally it would be very difficult to predict when the agreement will be finalized before we are satisfied. We will persist in our efforts to reach formulations that would satisfy us.

[Einstein] The spokesman for the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, said as a way of summing up today's deliberations: There were differences of opinion. We will not give up on matters pertaining to Lebanon's sovereignty. Thus, at least this time, there is agreement [temimut de'im] between Israel and Lebanon that the road is still long, and that there are still quite a few points of dispute.

The political committee today discussed the status and the immunity the Israeli and Lebanese liaison offices will get once they are established in the two countries after the agreement [heskem] is reached. We have learned that the Lebanese have not yet announced their agreement [haskamatam] to the establishment of a Lebanese liaison office in Israel. Next week the deliberations will again be accelerated and the plan is to have four rounds of talks, the first being next Monday, once again in Khaldah. [end recording]

Arens, Shamir To Meet

TA220616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] This morning there will be a discussion in the defense minister's office about the present situation in the negotiations with Lebanon. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and representatives of all the elements participating in the prolonged talks will meet in Arens' office. The recognition — the feeling is increasing in Jerusalem that Israel is close to a decision about the form of the arrangement with Lebanon. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer is in the studio to report on this matter:

[Schiffer] The people conducting the negotiations are facing serious dilemmas this morning. This is against the background of attacks against the IDF in Lebanon, panic in the negotiations, and the unstable position of the Lebanese delegation. On whose side is time working, then? Political sources said during the night, after the round of talks in Khaldah, that the representatives from Lebanon are losing the courage required, and every day that passes is weakening them and increasing the Syrian pressure on them not to reach an arrangement with Israel. The U.S. delegation is not contributing toward cooling tempers. Members of that delegation have been complaining to Israel for some time that the more it demands, the less it will actually receive.

As stated, yesterday Defense Minister Moshe Arens said that Israel's ability to hold on to the lines in Lebanon will decide the future of the negotiations. Yitzhaq Shamir and Moshe Arens, to no small extent under the influence of the IDF general staff's position, maintain the view that it is only by relying on Maj Sa'd Haddad's deployment that it will be possible to guarantee the security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

This morning an attempt will be made to examine new ideas through which it will perhaps be possible to get the negotiations moving. Sources close to those conducting the negotiations have told me: Impressive achievements have already been obtained. It seems that we have reached the end of the limit of concessions by all sides. The choice is: Either we sign an agreement with the Government of Lebanon with U.S. guarantees, with supervision arrangements in the south, or Israel will remain without an agreement, with Maj Sa'd Haddad, and IDF soldiers will become a target for attacks by the Lebanese, too. We must say that putting matters like this is difficult — perhaps onesided — but it sets the issue for a rapid decision. If not, as political sources have said, the other alternative is to retreat to the Al-'Awwali River and wait from a position more suitable for Israel with regard to safeguarding its security.

Minister Shamir Interviewed on Haddad Issue

TA210957 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 22 Apr 83 p 16

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Adar Qeysari: "Minister Shamir: We Have Full Trust in Haddad" — date and place not given]

[Text] As is well known, the Americans and Lebanese are opposed to the IDF remaining in southern Lebanon, because they think that this would be a blow to Lebanese sovereignty. Since Israel was the first to declare its intention of honoring Lebanon's independence, it has, as an alternative, proposed the conception of cooperation between the forces of Israel and Lebanon. This was stated by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir:

Question: Would this cooperation take the form of Maj Haddad's forces remaining in the security strip in southern Lebanon?

Answer: Cooperation involving the security of northern Israel must be based on full trust. And Maj Haddad has proven for years that we can cooperate with him, with full trust in him. Through cooperation with him, we can hope that the return of the PLO members to southern Lebanon will be prevented.

Question: How do you explain the opposition of the United States and Lebanon to Haddad remaining in southern Lebanon?

Answer: We are incapable of understanding the meaning of their opposition to Haddad. He has proven his sincere loyalty to Lebanon, his homeland. He has also proven leadership ability and absolute devotion to the task of uprooting PLO terrorism from Lebanon. It would be really absurd if a top ranking post is not reserved for Maj Haddad in an attempt to safeguard the security of the region of our northern border on the one hand, and to maintain Lebanese sovereignty on the other. What happened to the U.S. Embassy in Beirut this week only reinforces our position even further. There is no logical reason for the opposition to Haddad remaining.

Question: Are you optimistic about a successful conclusion to the negotiations with Lebanon?

Answer: If we overcome such points of dispute as Haddad, UNIFIL,and other things, we will be able to sign an agreement with Lebanon. After signing the agreement, the IDF will withdraw, simultaneously with the Syrian Army, from the soil of Lebanon. The PLO will have to retreat even before that, of course, with the precondition for all of this being the return of our prisoners.

Question: Do you believe that the Syrians will retreat from Lebanon?

Answer: I cannot predict the Syrians' moves in advance. They have already declared several times their willingness to leave Lebanon, but it is impossible to know what they will do. We will know this after signing the agreement with Lebanon.

Ben-Porat Recommends Withdrawal to Security Strip

TA210931 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A In Hebrew 22 Apr 83 p 9

[Interview with Minister without Portfolio Mordekhay Ben-Porat by Adar Qeysari: "It Would Be A Mistake To Put All the Cards on Major Haddad Alone" — date and place not given]

[Text] A formal proposal has been placed on the Cabinet table which was submitted to the Cabinet secretary by Ministers Mordekhay Ben-Porat and Aharon Uzan. Ministers Mordekhay

Tzipori and Yuval Ne'eman also support the proposal.

Minister Ben-Porat says: The proposal submitted by Minister Uzan and myself recommends a unilateral withdrawal to the security strip in southern Lebanon. At the first stage, the IDF will consolidate there. After that, so we propose, our forces will retreat from the Ash-Shuf hills. The IDF will remain in the security strip until another force is found that will be able to defend southern Lebanon, and that force will replace the IDF.

Question: Do you mean Maj Haddad's forces?

Answer: Haddad, or any other force suitable to this task.

Question: There is a view that we will soon reach an agreement with Lebanon. How does this possibility fit in with your above-stated proposal?

Answer: An agreement with Lebanon is always preferable. Therefore the government is not in a rush to discuss our proposal, lest we reach an agreement soon.

Question: And what if we reach an agreement with Lebanon,and the Syrians, for their part, refuse to retreat?

Answer: That is what is worrying me. Our proposal is primarily intended for that possibility. By the way, I have been told that the very fact of having submitted the proposal — as soon as the Lebanese learned of it — pushed them into advancing the negotiations. In this way, too, our proposal has made a contribution.

Question: If we arrive at a stage where the IDF can evacuate the security strip, in your opinion will the replacement force have to be that of Maj Haddad?

Answer: In southern Lebanon we need forces of the type of that of Haddad, capable of helping us. If Haddad is capable of taking this task upon himself, it is our duty to strengthen him. However, it would be a mistake to put all the cards on Haddad alone. In addition to him, we must foster another team of commanders who will be able to replace him if this is needed.

Question: What is your reaction to the explosion in the U.S. Embassy?

Answer: I hope that the explosion will bring the Americans back to reality; that Philip Habib and his colleagues will finally understand where they are.

Syria Said To Increase Military Preparations

TA210815 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Apr 83 pp 1,15

[Report by Ya'aquov Erez, Ilan Kfir, and 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpts] It has recently been possible to see increased activity on the Syrian line of positions, from the IDF front in the Ash-Shuf hills. This activity is mainly focused on fortification and digging-in activity in the various sectors. The fortification has been speeded up in the Syrian positions near the Beirut-Damascus highway, and Syrian soldiers are busy erecting new positions and expanding the fortifications.

Parallel with the Syrian fortification and preparation activity, reports have recently reached Israel indicating increasing preparations in Syria on the military issues. These preparations, in the opinion of experts, indicate Syrian readiness for a confrontation with Israel at the initiative of Damascus, or readiness springing from the fear that Israel will initiate a military move.

Soviet involvement in Syria has increased, and reports from world media say that a third SAM-5 site is being established in Syria. The missiles are maintained by the Soviets. Exercises and training have also been increased in the Syrian units. The activities being carried out there prove that alertness has increased.

Alertness has increased in the IDF following this, but in order not to cause a deterioration in the situation, actions are being avoided that could be interpreted as provocation. Yesterday Israeli spokesmen denied the reports published in Lebanon that Syrian antiaircraft opened fire on Israeli planes.

Israel still has no information as to whether the Syrians are prepared to withdraw from Lebanon after an agreement between Israel and Lebanon is achieved. This is the key question concerning future Syrian intentions. The Damascus authorities may be awaiting the conclusion of the political negotiations between Israel and Lebanon before deciding how to react.

Recently an attempt by the terrorists to work in territory held by the IDF has been observed, and they are sending squads to this area. At one time the Syrians prevented terrorist activity on their land, and in the eastern sector — in the Al-Biqa' region — they even drove the terrorist bases away from the border region and blocked their traffic arteries to the territory held by the IDF. It now appears that this policy has changed, and the Syrians, accerding to various signs, are permitting the passage of terrorist squads from their territory to work in the areas held by the IDF.

Information has been received in Jerusalem about increased Syrian activity in Lebanon and the use of pressure on the Lebanese administration, but it is not clear whether this move hints at possible preparations for a withdrawal, or a deepening of the Syrian involvement for the sake of bargaining in the political negotiations.

Israeli sources regard the attack against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut as part of the Syrian attempt to warn the Lebanese president and the United States about the effect of signing a direct agreement with Israel.

It seems that Israel will be forced to reassess its positions on the question of Maj Haddad's status as a result of the Lebanese president's refusal to grant its demand and place him at the head of his forces in the buffer zone in southern Lebanon.

Eytan Warning

TA211639 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Reserve Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan has said that mistaken assessments are liable to drag Syria into what he called an adventure in the region. The former chief of staff made his first public appearance as a citizen today before students at the Oholo seminar, and our correspondent Menahem Horowitz recorded some of his remarks:

[Begin Eytan recording] The Syrians have many reasons for opening fire — be it in a limited way or an unlimited way. For example, if an agreement in Lebanon comes closer between us and the Lebanese that is not to the Syrians' liking, that could be a reason to open fire in order to disrupt the agreement or prevent its achievement. If the Syrians feel themselves isolated and think — whether mistakenly or not — that they have no other way of fitting better into the Arab world, that could be a reason for heating up the atmosphere and opening fire. [end recording]

Labor Party Fears War

TA211310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The Labor Party has warned against the danger of deteriorating to the stage of war between Israel and Syria. The Labor Party says that this tension has been created also because of the deployment of forces in Lebanon, adding that the solution to that can only be found with the withdrawal of those forces.

It is inconceivable, the Labor Party says, to conduct prolonged, extended negotiations interspersed with false announcements on breakthroughs while our soldiers are stuck in the murky quagmire in Lebanon, and when another war is at our threshold.

Haddad on Syrian Threat, Embassy Bombing

TA220811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad has said that many dozens of terrorists who have been trained by the Syrians in the Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon have reached Beirut over the last few weeks. Furthermore, he says he has information which indicates that the people who carried out the attack against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut were helped by both the Syrians and Lebanese Army officers. Last night our correspondent Hayim Hecht spoke with Sa'd Haddad:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] Recently, West Beirut has become a dirty town. The Lebanese capital has been filled with terrorists and leftists, Haddad says, and they are again doing anything they feel like in the city. They are being helped by officers and men from the Lebanese Army who, in return for a financial bribe, bring the terrorists arms and ammunition from the region under Syrian control to West Beirut.

[Haddad — in English] West Beirut became a dirty city now. Before now [words indistinct] and there are terrorists coming back again to West Beirut.

[Hecht] The roads between Beirut and the Al-Biqa' region are open, Haddad says, and this makes it very easy for the Syrians and terrorists to refill their ammunition stores in the Lebanese capital. The Lebanese Army and the soldiers of the Multinational Force [MNF] received from the IDF a city clean of terrorists. Reality proves that they are not in control of what is happening there. The tragic explosion in the U.S. Embassy, Haddad says, must make it clear to the Americans why they cannot entrust our security to the Lebanese Army or the MNF. The major says that his soldiers in the eastern sector have not noticed any special movement of troops in the Syrian deployment.

[Haddad — in English] I do not think that there will be a war. All of this — I think the Syrians are aiming after this noise and this complication to put political pressure on this military constellation.

[Hecht] Haddad believes that there will be no war with the Syrians. In collusion with the Russians, they have created an artificial noise, and from all the talk about military preparations they are hoping for political capital. The Americans will begin to apply pressure, Maj Haddad estimates, and the immediate result, in his opinion, will be additional pressure on Israel and a demand for further concessions in Lebanon. [end recording]

Three IDF Soldiers Killed in Beirut Incidents

Highway Clash With Terrorists

TA210711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Two IDF soldiers were killed last night in a clash between an IDF unit and a terrorist gang near the Beirut-Damascus highway. The four members of the gang were killed. One of our fallen soldiers is Captain Menahem Reich, 22, from Haifa. His funeral will take place at 1545 at the military cemetery in Haifa. The family of the other victim has been notified.

The IDF spokesman reported that the clash occurred south of Ru'aysat Sawfar on the Beirut-Damascus highway. The terrorist gang tried to infiltrate into our territory from an area under Syrian control. As stated, all four members of the gang were killed. Kalachnikov and M-16 rifles were found in their possession.

Terrorists Were Lebanese Druze

TA220733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The four terrorists killed in the clash with Israeli forces in Lebanon on Wednesday night, 20 April, were Lebanese Druze. This is according to Israel Television. The report said the four were from the village of (Ash-Shamayh) near the Beirut-Damascus highway, close to the site of the encounter.

Ambush Near Ar-Rashidiyah

TA211713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] An IDF soldier was killed by light weapons fire this morning in an ambush on a military vehicle on the coastal road south of Ar-Rashidiyah. The soldier's family has been notified. The IDF spokesman has reported that IDF forces searched the area.

Since the end of the Peace for Galilee operation last September,132 soldiers have been killed in Lebanon, our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports. Military sources told our correspondent that they expect the terrorists' activities against IDF soldiers in Lebanon to increase.

Peres Says Government Policies 'Imply War'

TA211139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Report by Hayim Hecht on Labor Party Leader Shim'on Peres speech at the Hatnu'ah Haqibutzit Hame'uhedet Center at Kibbutz Afiqim, on 21 April]

[Text] [Hecht] The Israeli Government's annexationist activities in Judaea and Samaria imply an inevitable war, Shim'on Peres states. Only a miracle will spare us from it, he says. They are trying to sell us 100-year wars based on the idea that territory is compatible with security. However, the new tools which already exist in the region do not take distances, hills, or rivers into account. The civilianization of the presettlement on Har Berakha is a dead-end street, a street which Peres believes will lead us to one of two directions: Either we become a racist country like South Africa, or we end up being a country of minorities like Lebanon.

[Peres] The real significance of such a settlement is to annex another 420,000 Arabs who live in Samaria to the State of Israel. How are we benefiting from it? What sort of security do we attain by it? Our of this new blend, we will be unable to again consolidate a Jewish state on Eretz Yisra'el territory with a Jewish majority.

[Hecht] There is no other option except the Jordanian one — there is no Ukrainian option, Peres says. We must sit down with Husayn, but not with the PLO. 'Arafat's aim is to break the negotiating table rather than sit around it, and all this because he cannot make decisions.

According to Peres, 1983 is a decisive year. Whatever is not done now will be postponed by at least another 3 years, and now that the Soviets are already meddling in the region, 3 years is a long time. Elections are scheduled to be held in the United States next year and in Israel the following year. Since we are not a crowd of demonstrators, we must strive to change the policy. I read the polls, Peres admits, but I am still for holding early elections. The political reality in Israel is that we must make constant efforts to gain the sympathy of the religous parties, and we will continue to do that.

Peres concluded his speech by calling on the government to make up its mind, for God's sake — as he phrased it — about its policy in Lebanon.

[Peres] I do not care that they are looking for words. I only care that the search has a price and means a sacrifice. Only a short time ago we heard about two officers killed in a clash with Lebanese [as heard] forces.

[Hecht] A multinational force, as part of a solution, is out of the question in the wake of the explosion in Beirut. The U.S. Senate will not want to hear about it anymore, Peres says. The time has come for Begin to sober up and realize that Al-Jumayyil cannot give more than he has, and all Al-Jumayyil has, Peres sums up, are terrible problems.

Mubarak Congratulates Navon on Independence Day

TA211705 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Jerusalem, 21 Apr (ITIM) — President Yitzhaq Navon received today a congratulatory message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak for Independence Day.

In his message, the Egyptian president wrote:

"I am pleased to send to Your Excellency my most friendly congratulations on the occasion of your national holiday, and my best wishes to you and the people of Israel along with my highest appreciation and respect.

Signed: Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Romanian Envoy Visits Jerusalem 'Secretly'

TA221021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] An envoy sent by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu visited Jerusalem secretly this week and gave Prime Minister Menahem Begin a personal message from President Ceausescu. According to anannouncement by the Government Press Office, in the message the Romanian leader expressed his views about the political situation in the Middle East and his desire to deepen relations with Israel. In a talk with the Romanian envoy, (Floria Dimitrescu), the question of the money the Romanian Government is demanding from Jews who want to emigrate to Israel was also raised.

The Romanian president's adviser was also accompanied on his visit by the director of the Middle East department in Bucharest, (Marcel Dino). The pair also met with Minister of Commerce and Industry Gid'on Pat and Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir. They left Israel this morning.

Poll Finds Likud More 'Worthy' Than Labor

TA220635 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Apr 83 p c

[Report by political correspondent Sare Honig]

[Text] — The Likud is regarded by the public as having a more responsible leadership than the Alignment, and as more worthy of being in power, fitter to cope with the nation's problems, more democratic, more united, and less given to the use of verbal violence, according to the latest JERUSALEM POST opinion poll. Those polled also felt that the Likud represents people like themselves more than Labour does. The poll was conducted for THE POST by the Modi'in Ezrahi social-research center under Dr Sara Shemer. It was carried out between March 15 and 23, among a representative sample of 1,216 Israeli Jews.

To gauge the public images of the two large parties, respondents were asked to rate them for each of several traits on a scale of one to seven. Higher scores meant more positive perceptions of the party.

The Likud won an average rating of 5.0 for responsible leadership, with the Alignment trailing at 3.5. On the parties' worthiness to be in power, the Likud was rated at 4.9, the Alignment at 3.4. The Likud rated 4.9 on suitability to tackle the nation's problems, the Alignment 3.7. Respondents saw the two parties as closer on their respect for the rules of democracy. The Likud was rated at 5.1, the Alignment 4.6.

A related question — which party's representatives are less given to the use of verbal violence — also produced close results. Here, too, the Likud came out slightly ahead, 4.0 to the Alignment's 3.6. On its degree of internal unity, the Likud scored 4.8, the Alignment only 2.8.

The respondents were also asked to rate each party on how much they believe it represents people "like me." The Likud was awarded an average rating of 4.37, with the Alignment scoring only 3.28.

Shemer notes that the differences between Labour and the Alignment are considerable, and significant concerning their worthiness to hold power.

Among the 334 respondents who identified themselves as floating voters — not leaning towards either party — the gaps were somewhat narrower. But here, too, the Likud scored higher than the Alignment on every question, except the one pertaining to verbal violence. Here, the Alignment scored 3.9 as against 3.7 for the Likud.

Among the floating voters only, the Likud was power (4.4 to 3.6), suitability to tackle the nation's problems (4.7 to 3.9),respect for democracy (4.9 to 4.7), unity (4.3 to 2.7), and as representing the "people like me" (3.73 to 3.45).

ALGERIA

Agricultural Agreement Signed With GDR

LD211832 Algiers APS in English 1500 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Algiers, 21/4/83 (APS) — The stay paid since last Monday in Algeria by an important economic delegation from GDR led by Mr Gunther Kleiber, substitute member of the Politburo of the Unified Socialist Party, deputy minister of the Council of Ministers, minister of the general mechanic construction, resulted in the signature of a proceedings. The document was signed by Mr Salim Saadi, CC member, minister of agriculture and agrarian revolution and Mr Gunther Kleiber.

Discussions between the two delegations were centered on certain projects of cooperations in the fields relating to agriculture, the situation in the field of commercial relations relating to agricultural mechanism, possibilities of scientific and technical cooperation in the agricultural fields.

LIBYA

Support to Nicaragua Challenge to U.S.

LD211508 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The U.S. Administration, its President in the White House, the State Department, and U.S. ambassadors in Latin Ameica are in a state of uncertainty as a result of the assistance provided by the Libyan Arab people to the revolution in Nicaragua in order to confront U.S. colonialist aggressions.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said that President Reagan may soon deliver a speech about U.S. policy in Central America to win congressional approval of additional aid to pro-U.S. regimes in Latin America. The U.S. Administration has waged a wide campaign against the Jamahiriyah's support to the revolution in Nicaragua following the stopover in Brazil of Libyan Arab planes on their way to Nicaragua carrying assistance from the Jamahiriyah to the people of Nicaragua, who are confronting U.S. aggression.

In its turn the United States plays the role of supporting aggression and facism, and it will not be able to stop Libyan aid to revolutionaries anywhere in the world despite its agents, spies, and terrorist apparatus. The Libyan Arab people, with its international humanitarian revolution, today challenges the United States in the Caribbean and Latin America, which the United States has always believed to be merely a banana plantation belonging to it. The Libyan Arab people, which the U.S. Administration challenged on the Sidra coast, are now returning the challenge to America and the Caribbean, which the United States considers to be its back yard.

Reagan Policies Viewed in Light of Beirut Blast

LD211639 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The Dimensions of the U.S. Beirut Embassy Explosion Incident"]

[Excerpts] The removal of bodies from the debris of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut has continued for the fourth day. The dimensions of this incident are analyzed as follows:

In January 1981, President Ronald Reagan assumed office in the United States amid many encouraging foreign reports [words indistinct] term of his presidency, which has now entered its third year. Those events were concerned with ending the occupation of the American Embassy in Tehran and the release of the hostages detained there. But the incident at the American Embassy in Beirut last Monday came as an unexpected shock to the Reagan administration, which is experiencing bankruptcy in its foreign policy and economic difficulties at home. This is a critical period because presidential election campaign is about to begin.

The incident at the American Embassy in Beirut came at a very critical period with regard to the so-called Reagan initiative, presented to parties in the region which have rejected it totally or with clear reservations, despite the fact that the U.S. Government considers the initiative as the most important plan in Reagan's foreign policy.

An indication of the importance of the initiative to Reagan's political future is the fact that only hours before the explosion at the embassy he had sent a cable of congratulations to President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of the anniversary of Syria's independence. The message contained ambiguous promises on the possibility of Syria regaining the Golan Heights through joining the American diplomatic efforts in the region. The Reagan administration's ambition by such a signal was aimed at urging Syria to retreat from its stance, which rejects the initiative — a fact that would lead to bringing closer the views of King Husayn of Jordan and the PLO.

Washington's return to the American geographical concept of the Golan Heights — which the Zionist enemy officially and openly annexed — is tantamount to the fact that the architects of U.S. foreign policy in the region are living their last difficult hours on board an initiative which is about to sink. Therefore the operation of blowing up the American Embassy in Beirut was a personal shock to Reagan and his advisers, and showed that security conditions in Lebanon are no better than they were before the arrival of the multinational forces and no more stable after the 32d round of the negotiations of shame, which Beirut radio said yesterday were going around in a vicious circle.

The stagnant American diplomatic impasse in the region might be set in motion by artificial and dynamic events aimed at

convincing the Arab regimes to hold direct negotiations with the Zionist entity, not just to win Jewish votes in the coming presidential elections, but also to rescue the initiative from under the debris of the collapsed American Embassy in Beirut, particularly since President Reagan might not prefer history to write that he was the President who ruled America from the period between the occupation of the American Embassy in Tehran and the blowing up of the American Embassy in Beirut.

CAR President Arrives in Tripoli 21 April

LD211511 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The president of the Central African Republic, Andre Kolingba, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The guest president and the accompanying delegation were accorded a great welcome at Tripoli Airport. The commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir met the president at the airport, together with a number of members of the general people's committee, several officers of the Libyan Armed Forces, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD220530 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received on 21 April President Andre Kolingba of the Central African Republic. During his audience with the leader, President Kolingba affirmed his and the accompanying delegation's desire to familiarize themselves directly with the pioneering democratic experience implemented on the land of the Jamahiriyah.

The Central African Republic president also underlined the desire of his country to develop relations with the Jamahiriyah in various domains, pointing out that direct contact contributed to consolidating and strengthening cooperation between the African peoples, with the aim of affirming African unity. The Central African president also expressed his admiration and his appreciation for the grand achievements realized by the Arab Libyan people as a result of the great September Revolution.

JANA: Somali President Reportedly Critically Ill

LD211859 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Nairobi, 21 Apr (JANA) — A JANA news dispatch reports that the Somali President Siad Barre is in one of the hospitals in the Kenyan capital receiving emergency treatment for a critical illness. President Barre was taken to the Kenyan capital by special aircraft to receive the treatment. Diplomatic sources in Nairobi say that Siad Barre is receiving intensive treatment, but his condition is serious. His chances of recovery might be hopeless.

MOROCCO

Commerce Minister on Results of U.S. Visit

LD211349 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Casablanca, Apr 21 (MAP) — Mr Azzedine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry and tourism, returned home on Wednesday coming from the United States after an official visit.

In a statement he made upon arrival, Mr Guessous said that one of the objectives of his visit to the U.S. was to participate in the meeting of the Moroccan-American joint commission, which examined means of boosting cooperation between the two countries. He added that after evaluating the situation, it was decided that supplementary measures should be taken to absorb the trade deficit. Among the measures decided upon, he added, were the encouragemnet of American investments in Morocco, especially in advanced technology like electronics and agro-industry. He specified that the issue to be rapidly negotiated will be the agreement of reciprocal guarantee of both countries' investments.

The second event in this visit, went on Mr Guessous, was the holding of the "forum on investments in Morocco" organized by the "Chase Manhattan Bank". He added that the forum was an occasion to highlight the possibilities of investment in Morocco and the new code of investments offering great advantages to foreign investors. He underlined that the forum was marked by the message addressed to its participants by King Hassan II of Morocco, and which served as basis for deliberations.

Concerning the Moroccan touristic week organized in Orlando, Florida, the minister said that this week, which was held in the "Walt Disney World" (visited by 25 million tourists every year), confirmed Morocco's bright image in the U.S. and offered an exceptional opportunity to promote Moroccan tourism. He said that the Moroccan wing in "Disneyland" to be constructed soon, will present various aspects of Morocco's cultural, artistic, archietectural heritage, as well as its economic and touristic development.

MAP Reports Kenyan Denial of Invitation to SDAR

LD211551 Rabat MAP in English 1244 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, April 21 (MAP) — Kenya has just denied rumors claiming that President arap Moi, acting chairman of the Organization of African Unity, had sent an invitation to the so called "Saharan Democratic Arab Republic" (SDAR), to attend the OAU summit due to be held next June in Addis Ababa, reported this Thursday the Moroccan daily "L'OPINION," mouthpiece of the Istiqlal Party.

According to the spokesman of the Kenyan Foreign Ministry, the invitation was sent by the administrative secretary general of the OAU (again him), and not by Kenya that does not even recognize the "SDAR", added "L'OPINION".

It is to be recalled that the present crisis the OAU is going through was the direct result of the irresponsible behavior of the organization's Administrative Secretary General Edem Kodjo, who bypassing his powers, allowed a delegation of the non-existant "SDAR" to sit in OAU ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa in Feb 1982.

SUDAN

At-Tayyib Heads Security Council Session

JN212020 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Apr (SUNA) — During its periodic meeting this morning under Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president and chairman of the council, the National Security Council reviewed the security situation throughout the country and confirmed that it is stable.

During its meeting, the council was briefed on the soundness of the supply situation throughout the country and with the availability of all the citizens' needs. It also discussed all the steps to be taken regarding the flow of some neighboring countries' citizens into Sudan as a result of drought, which has caused damage and security disturbances in some of these countries.

TUNISIA

UK's Hurd Holds Talks With Ministers 22 April

LD221128 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1050 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Tunis, 22 Apr (TAP) — British minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Douglas Hurd this morning had further meetings with Foreign Minister Caid Beji es-Sebsi and the secretary of state attached to the foreign minister, Mahmud Mistiri. The two meetings were devoted to discussing international affairs and in particular the situation in the Arab Maghreb, the Middle East, and Africa. The meetings enabled each side to ask about some issues of interest.

A well-informed source said that Mr Hurd asked for more inforrmation about the activity which the Arab Maghreb has experienced recently in the wake of the meeting between Bendjedid and King Hassan II and also about the visit to Tunisia by the Algerian president. The British delegation also asked about the prospects of cooperation among Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, particularly concerning the latter two countries. The British minister of state welcomed the rapprochement which the region is experiencing and the hopes that arise from this, asking about the chances this would give for settling the Western Sahara issue.

Regarding the Middle East issue, the two sides each adhered to the stance of its country; despite the fact that Britain supports the Palestinians' right to self-determination to set up an independent state, nevertheless, as a member of the EEC, it does not recognize the PLO.

Asked about the development in his country's stance toward the PLO, Mr Hurd said that Britain is talking at a certain level with the Palestinians, adding tht there is no new element so far.

The Tunisian side asked for some clarifications about the situation in South Africa and the issue of Namibia and the measures which should be taken to speed up the independence of that country.

GHANA

Upper Voltan President Arrives in Accra

AB201355 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] The chairman of the People's Salvation Council, CSP, of Upper Volta, Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, arrived in Accra today for a 3-day official visit. He was met on arrival by the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings. In a welcome address, Flight Lt Rawlings noted that Maj Ouedraogo comes not only from a neighboring country but also heads a government which has demonstrated solidarity and cooperation with Ghana. He said Ghana and Upper Volta share common bonds of friendship, culture, and history which have withstood the divisions of colonialism. Flight Lt Rawlings noted that the PNDC and the CSP share similar ideas of social justice, public probity, and accountability. He said Maj Ouedraogo's visit will go a long way to strengthen the common African heritage. The chairman of the PNDC expressed the hope that bilateral relations and how to expand and diversify cooperation in the west African subregion will be explored for the benefit of the two countries.

Replying, Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo said he was happy to visit Ghana. He said Ghana and Upper Volta have resemblance in the historial, sociological, and cultural fields. He said the problems of Upper Volta and Ghana are similar and this makes it necessary for the two countries to cooperate. The Upper Volta head of state said in efforts to develop his country, he will need the assistance of Ghana. He promised to collaborate with Ghana and all friendly countries for the mutual benefit of the two countries and Africa as a whole.

Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo is accompanied on his visit by a nine member delegation.

Ouedraogo, Rawlings Remarks Reported

AB210913 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The chairman of the People's Salvation Council of Upper Volta, Major Ouedraogo, who is on a visit to Ghana, has said the common course embarked upon by his country and Ghana is a just one which will satisfy the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries despite difficulties. Maj Ouedraogo was addressing members of the National Defense Committees, People's Defense Committees, PDC, and Workers' Defense Committees, WDC, in Greater Accra at the Kwame Nkrumah Conference Center yesterday.

He observed that there are both internal and external forces which are against the current people's struggles but the people always prevail. He said the present revolution is aimed at educating the masses and making them aware of their rights and responsibilities. Maj Ouedraogo said Upper Volta and Ghana can benefit a lot from each other and suggested the revival of the Ghana-Upper Volta Joint Commission which was set up in 1971.

The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, proposed that the joint commission should hold its fourth ministerial session in Accra within the next 3 months. He noted that the border demarcation commission, which is part of the joint commission, has done a highly commendable job and has almost finalized its reports. He said the Ghana-Upper Volta border demarcation commission has been the most successful among the three commissions set up and this further underlines the strong bonds existing between the two countries.

The secretary for the PDC's and WDC's, Mr Akrasi Sarpong, recalled Ghana's past political experiences and appeals to Maj Ouedraogo to reconsider the decision of the government to hand over in 2 years' time.

IVORY COAST

AFP Discusses Secondary Teachers Strike

AB201455 Paris AFP in English 1430 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Abidjan, April 20 (AFP) — Striking secondary school teachers in Ivory Coast today defied President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and maintained their action, which they began on Monday. Mr Houphouet-Boigny had attacked their strike as "illegal" and threatened tough action if they did not end what he called their "act of rebellion" by early today. According to officials of the teachers' trade union, the stoppage by its members was virtually 100 percent. The strikers'numbers was less than 4,000, however, while there are more than 4,000 more foreign teachers working in the west African state, many of them French, who are not on strike. The protest is against the abolition at the beginning of the year of a right to free housing and against housing allowances which they consider too low.

In a presidential statement last night, the strikers were threatened with suspension of their salaries, prosecution under the law, and expulsion from state property. The union replied in an address to its members: "We will not stand for it. We are not responsible for the bad management....We will fight to defend our rights and our dignity."

The union also called for "the thieves and others responsible for the situation" to be punished, in an apparent reference to numerous scandals which have arisen in the wake of the government cuts of teachers' rights. These scandals are said to involve, for example, the letting to the state of fictitious property or grossly-inflated rents for certain property let to the state.

Security forces have maintained a very discreet presence in the vicinity of education establishements in the capital, where the situation appeared quite calm today. But according to the union, the authorities today began expelling strikers from buildings in the interior of the country, notably at Yamoussoukro, the birthplace of President Houphouet-Boigny.

The president yesterday accused the teachers of seeking to "maintain in their entirety" what he described as "favors" granted in the past to state employees.

NIGERIA

Biya Continues Visit, To Remain for Chad Meeting

AB201740 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] The visiting Cameroonian president, Mr Paul Biya, today in Lagos laid a wreath at the Tafawa Balewa cenotaph in honor of Nigerians who lost their lives in both world wars and the Nigerian civil war. President Biya was received at the cenotaph by the minister of internal affairs, Alhaji Ali Baba.

The Cameroonian leader later visited the Center for Black and African Arts and Civilization at the National Theater, Igomu. At the center, President Biya saw among other things video cassette recordings of the Festac [Festival of Arts and Culture] performance of artists from the Republic of Cameroon as well as the archival and library materials preserved and documented in the center.

Conducting the president around the center, the director, Mr Z.S. Ali, recalled that the contribution of participants from the United Republic of Cameroon during the Festac was crucial not only to the success of the event but also to the establishment of the center. He stated that the center for Black and African Arts and Civilization emphasized the strong cultural links which existed between Nigeria and Cameroon and indeed Nigeria's cultural bonds with black and African peoples.

Later in the day, the Cameroonian leader will hold a second round of bilateral talks with President Shehu Shagari. He will also attend a state banquet arranged in his honor by President Shehu Shagari at the National Theater, Igomu. A joint communique on the outcome of the talks is expected to be signed on Thursday to mark the end of the state visit.

President Biya will, however, stay back to attend the Lake Chad Basin Commission summit opening in Lagos on Friday.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

AB211300 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Nigeria and Cameroon today in Lagos signed an agreement for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. The agreement provides for the setting up of a new Nigeria-Cameroon joint commission. It was signed on behalf of Nigeria by the minister of national planning, Mrs Adenike Oyagbola, while the Cameroonian minister delegate to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Aminou Oumarou, signed for his country.

In a joint communique signed by President Shehu Shagari and his Cameroonian counterpart, Mr Paul Biya, the two leaders reaffirmed their desire to pursue, intensify, and consolidate the cooperation between their countries. On inter-African economic cooperation, both leaders saw current efforts to expand and consolidate the existing African regional grouping as a positive means of implementing the plan of action adopted at the Lagos economic summit meeting. They urged the industrialized countries of the world to cooperate with the Third World in bringing about a new economic order by overcoming the current disequilibrium between developed and developing countries.

On the international scene, Presidents Shehu Shagari and Paul Biya expressed dismay at the increasing evidence of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of states, particularly in Africa, in violation of the objectives and ideals of the United Nations and OAU.

Nigeria-Cameroon Joint Communique

AB211705 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Nigerian-Cameroonian joint communique on Cameroon President Paul Biya's visit to Lagos issued in Lagos on 21 April — read by reporter George Togne]

[Text] On the invitation of His Excellency Alhaji Shehu Shagari, the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Paul Biya, president of the United Republic of Cameroon, paid a state visit to the Federal Republic of Nigeria from 19th to 21st of April 1983. The president of the United Republic of Cameroon was accompanied by a high-level delegation consisting of HonorableAminou Oumaro, minister delegate to the minister [as heard] of foreign affairs; Honorable William Eteki Mboumoua, minister in charge of missions at the Presidency; Honorable Hamadou Moustapha, minister of mines and power; Mr Mataga Philippe, deputy director of the Civil Cabinet at the Presidency; Mr Ousmane Mey, governor of the northern province; Mr Luc Loe governor of the west province; Alhaji Yerima Mohaman Lamine, Cameroonian ambassador to Nigeria, and other senior members of the government.

The president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria was assisted by: Professor Ishaya Audu, minister of external affairs; Alhaji Ali Baba, minister of internal affairs; Professor Sunday Essang, minister of works: Mr Audu Ogbeh, minister of communication; Alhaji I.M. Hassan, minister of mines and power;Honorable Thomas Ademola, minister of state in the Ministry National Planning; Honorable Okoi Obuli, minister of state for water resources; Dr Chuba Okadigbo, political advisor at State House; His Excellency Alhaji Hamzat Ahmadu, Nigerian ambassador to Cameroon; and a number of senior government officials.

On his arrival in Lagos, the president of the United Republic of Cameroon was warmly and enthusiastically welcomed by the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, members of his Cabinet and a large number of Nigerians, thus demonstrating the close ties of brotherhood and friendship uniting the people of the United Republic of Cameroon and the people of Nigeria.

During the visit, President Paul Biya laid a wreath at the cenotaph of Tafawa Balewa Square; he visited the Center for Black and African Arts and Civilization at the National Arts Theater, Igomu. This visit was an opportunity for the Cameroonian head of state to get acquainted with Nigerian realities and to express his admiration and that of his government and people for the efforts of the Nigerian Government and people in building a united and prosperous nation.

In welcoming him on his maiden state visit to an African country since his accession to the presidency of Cameroon, President Shehu Shagari expressed to President Paul Biyahis admiration for the maturity shown during the change of leadership in Cameroon. During their talks which were held in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere, the two heads of state reviewed bilateral relations between the two countries and made an extensive survey of current international issues. They noted with satisfaction the similarity in their points of view on all issues discussed.

In so far as bilateral relations are concerned, the two heads of state reaffirmed their desire to pursue, intensify, and consolidate the cooperation between the two countries in all fields, particularly in economic, scientific, and technical matters for the advancement and benefit of the peoples of Cameroon and Nigeria. For this purpose, an agreement has been signed.

In regards to inter-African economic cooperation, the two heads of state saw current efforts to expand and consolidate existing African regional economic cooperation, as a positive means of implementing the plan of action adopted at the Lagos economic first meeting. They urged the industrialized countries of the world to cooperate with the Third World in bringing about a new economic order by overcoming the current imbalance between developed and developing countries.

On the international scene, the two heads of state expressed dismay at the increasing evidence of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of states, particularly in Africa, in violation of the objectives and ideals of the United Nations and the OAU. They called on the international community to concede to African states their right to choose their own destiny. They condemned the existing state of permanent crisis in Africa which is militating against the internal security of state, continental justice, and the economic emancipation of African countries.

With regard to Chad, the two heads of state appealed to all African states and the international community at large to give full support to the legal Government of Chad.

Concerning the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state once more vehemently condemned the unspeakable policy of apartheid and Bantustanization in South Africa and the recurrent acts of aggression perpetrated by the racist regime of Pretoria against the frontline states. On Namibia, the two heads of state noted the present impasse in negotiations for the independence of Namibia and reaffirmed their complete, unequivocal support for the liberation struggle being waged by the gallant Namibian people under the leadership of the SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. They reiterated their strong view that the UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 must remain the basis for resolving the question of Namibia's independence. The two heads of state categorically rejected the proposal to bring in such extraneous issues as linkage between a withdrawal of Cuban security forces from Angola and the attainment of independence by the Namibian people. In this connection, they expressed their indignation over current efforts to interfere in the internal affairs of the sovereign and independent state of the People's Republic of Angola.

They fully endorsed the communique and resolution recently adopted by the 20th opening session of the OAU liberation committee in Arusha, Tanzania. The two heads of state exchanged views and reached a common position on the current difficulties facing the OAU, especially the twice abortive 19th summit meeting.

The two heads of state were pleased with the deliberations and outcome of the summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement recently held in New Dehli, India.

His Excellency Paul Biya, president of the United Republic of Cameroon warmly thanked His Excellency Alhaji Shehu Shagari, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the government and people of Nigeria for the warm, brotherly, and affectionate welcome accorded him and the members of his delegation during his stay in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The president of the United Republic of Cameroon, His Excellency Paul Biya, extended an invitation to His Excellency Alhaji Shehu Shagari, president of the Federal Republic Nigeria, to pay a state visit to Cameroon, and the invitation was accepted with pleasure, and the date of the visit is to be determined through diplomatic channel.

Issued at Lagos on this 21st day of April on the year 1983, in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.

[Signed] Alhaji Shehu Shagari, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Paul Biya, president of the United Republic of Cameroon.

Kountche Arrives for Chad Summit; Habre To Come

Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] President Seyni Kountche of Niger Republic arrived in the federal capital today at the start of a 3-day official visit to the country. President Kountche, who is leading his country's delegation to the fourth summit of the Lake Chad Basin Commission which opens in Lagos tomorrow, was met on arrival at Murtala Mohammed Airport by President Shagari; the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme; ministers and top government officials.

Meanwhile, President Paul Biya of Cameroon who has been in the country since yesterday on a 3-day state visit is also expected to participate in the 2-day meetings. The Chadian head of state, Mr Hissein Habre, is being expected in the country today. Cameroon, Chad, Nigeria, and Niger are the four countries that form the Chad Basin Commission.

NAN Survey Shows Rise in Consumer Prices

AB211310 Lagos NAN in English 1301 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Lagos, April 21 (Nan) — Prices of essential commodities have risen by up to 300 per cent in Lagos within the last two months, a market survey conducted by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) has shown. The survey revealed that prices of toilet soap (Lux and Joy brands) had risen

from 25 kobo to 80 kobo, while a packet of Robert medicated soap, which in February sold for 5 naira, now sells for 15.

At Bhojsons Stores, Oyingbo, a carton of milk which two weeks ago sold for 19 naira 20 kobo now sells for 24 naira. At Tejuoso Market, the price of a toilet roll has risen from 30 kobo to 85 kobo. However, at Domino stores in Yaba, where toilet rolls are sold for 40 kobo each customers are not allowed to buy more than two at a time.

NAN investigation also revealed that prices of foodstuff have risen. A bag of rice at Iddo market, which sold for 67 naira two months ago, now sells for 85. Some consumers interviewed at Oyyingbo and Tejuoso markets said that the situation was becoming unbearable for the common man. At Leventis stores, Oyingbo, a sales official said that the rise in prices originated from our suppliers. We sell at prices dictated to us by Lever Brothers, food specialists, and other suppliers, he said. A reliable source at Lever Brothers said that production had been reduced by 60 percent because of shortage of raw materials and that the situation had forced the company to ration supplies to distributors.

TOGO

Ouedraogo Leaves Lome, Comments on Visit

AB202004 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] After a 2-day friendly and working visit to Togo, Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, the president of the Upper Voltan Republic, left Lome this morning. He left Togo satisfied with his stay and carrying with him very good impressions on the useful pieces of advice from the founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally. The Upper Voltan president declared that he was convinced that a country's development depended to some degree on experience, mobilization, and dialogue between the crest and the roots. Here is President Ouedraogo this morning at the airport before his departure.

[Begin recording] My impressions from this visit are good and pleasant. I come on a friendly and working visit to a sister country and I am leaving satisfied with the counsel that I received from my friend and brother, President Eyadema. Above all I am leaving with the conviction that any country's development can be achieved through some degree of experience, some mobilization, and the establishment of dialogue from the base to the summit and from the summit to the base, and essential condition for permanent and lasting exchange of views between the people and the leadership. I was able to appreciate this from this visit and observed it through my movements through this city. I am therefore leaving with the conviction that Togo's experience is a good one and that the Upper Voltan people should also look their realities in the face and settle down for long-term work which will certainly be crowned with success. And I cite as proof the dynamism and example deployed by my friend and brother President Eyadema, who never ceased to give me advice and who above all has shown special interest in all events in Upper Volta. He is ready to help us find solutions to our problems. [end recording]

Joint Communique on Visit

AB210812 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Joint Communique issued at the end of Upper Voltan President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo's 18-20 April visit to Togo, read by Togolese Foreign Minister Akakpo-Ahianyo — recorded]

[Text] Within the framework of periodic consultations between the leaders of the two countries and in accordance with the policy of good neighborliness which has always prevailed between Togo and Upper Volta, His Excellency MajorJean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, the chairman of the People's Salvation Council, CSP, and head of state of Upper Volta, paid a friendly and working visit from 18 to 20 April 1983 to Lome at the invitation of his brother and friend, President Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally, RPT.

The delegations of the two countries were as follows: on the Upper Voltan side His Excellency Michel Kafando, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Major Harouna Tarnagda, the minister of interior and security; Frederic Korsaga, minister of transport, environment and tourism; Major Christophe (Signato) CSP member; Lieutenant Sekou Laurent, CSP member; Soulemane Diallo, secretary general of the Ministry of Interior and Security; Paul Desire Kabore, director of bilateral cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Edouard Mingani, director of judicial affairs and the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; and Idrissa Ouedraogo, director of state protocol.

On the Togolese side were Kpotivi Tevi-Djidjogbe Lacle, member of Political Bureau and minister of interior; Anani Kuma Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Barry Moussa Barque, member of the Political Bureau and minister of public works, mines, energy, and hydraulic resources; Hodabalo Bodjona, member of the Central Committee and minister of public health and social affairs; Anani Gassou, member of the Central Committee and minister of rural development; Koffi Walla, member of the Central Committee and minister of planning and administrative reform; Samon Korto, member of the Central Committee and minister of rural management; Gbegnon Amegboh, member of the Central Committee and minister delegate to the Presidency of the Republic in charge of information, posts, and telecommunications; Agbetra Ayissah, member of the Central Committee and minister of third and fourth degree education and scientific research, and Poli Djalla, member of the Central Committee and minister of commerce and transport.

Talks between President Eyadema and President Ouedraogo resulted in a large-scale exchange of views on the state and prospects for the development of bilateral cooperation between Upper Volta and Togo as well as on the current major burning international issues.

Concerning bilateral cooperation, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction about the excellent relations of friendship and the high level of exchanges between the two countries and reaffirmed their firm determination to continue to work towards their consolidation.

The examination of current international issues permitted them to come to a great convergence of viewpoints, especially concerning African problems. The two heads of state deplored the persistence of conflicts and hotbeds very often aggravated by mounting cupidity and foreign interference. They admitted that this situation dangerously compromises the independence of African countries, the achievement of African unity and considerably thwarts their economic and social development efforts. In this regard, the two heads of state stressed the urgent need to protect the entire continent from these maneuvers and other foreign interferences that counter the interests of the hard-working African peoples. The two heads of state reaffirmed their attachment to the peaceful settlement of disputes between states in accordance with the principles of nonaggression of ECOWAS and of the OAU and the fundamentally African principle of dialogue. They made an appeal for African wisdom so that the 19th OAU summit conference could effectively be held to enable a lasting solution be found to the crisis which has paralyzed the pan-African organization.

Concerning Chad, the two heads of state insisted on stating that the only way for the Chadian people to live in peace is through reconciliation. In this regard, they will encourage the efforts being made by President Hissein Habre for the reconstruction and unity of the country.

Concerning the Western Sahara, the two heads of state expressed pleasure over initiatives taken by His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria with the goal of reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The two heads of state reaffirmed their attachment to the objective of a total and final decolonization of the African Continent. They instantly invited the Western powers to use their influence to bring pressure to bear on the racist Pretoria regime in order to accelerate the installation in Namibia of a government that is in conformity with the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people. In this regard, they renewed their total support for the nationalists of southern Africa in their liberation struggle against colonialism and apartheid.

Touching on economic problems, the two heads of state deplored the constant increase in prices of imported manufactured goods and made a pressing appeal to the industrialized countries to buy the raw materials from developing countries at fair prices. They are convinced that the development of Africa depends on regional economic integration and they encouraged all initiatives in this direction. They solemnly reaffirmed their determination to do all in their power to achieve the consolidation of the ECOWAS regional group.

His Excellency President Ouedraogo insisted on congratulating the founding chairman of RPT, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, on the progress made by the Togolese people in their search for food self-sufficiency and the economic independence of the nation.

His Excellency Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, chairman of the CSP and head of state of Upper Volta, extended to Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, the founding chairman of the RPT and president of the Togolese Republic, an invitation to pay an official visit to the sister Republic of Upper Volta, which he accepted. The date of this visit will be set jointly through the ususal channels. He also thanked the founding chairman of RPT, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, his government, and the brotherly people of Togo for the extremely warm and fraternal welcome given to him and to the delegation that accompanied him.

Issued in Lome on 20 April 1983.

Signed for the Government of the Republic of Togo, His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema; for the Government of the Republic of Upper Volta, His Excellency Maj dr Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Reports Death of Senior Resistance Leader

MB211135 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] A leader of the South African-sponsored bandits operating against Mozambique is reported to have been found dead in South Africa. The ARGUS news agency this morning quoted South African police as saying in a statement that police are investigating an incident in which a white man, Orlando Cristina, was killed in the Pretoria area this week. No arrests have been made.

Orlando Cristina was born in Portugal, but later lived as a settler in Mozambique. He became an officer in the Portuguese colonial secret police, the PIDE, and was involved in the setting up of special military units, which were responsible for some of the worst atrocities against civilians during the independence war.

Orlando Cristina fled to Rhodesia after Frelimo's victory in 1974 and worked closely with the Smith regime in the setting up of a terrorist group, which he named the Mozambique National Resistance. In recent years, he described himself as secretary general of the group.

VOFA Mourns Leader 'Wounded Inside Mozambique'

MB211845 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 21 Apr 83

["Communication to the Country"]

[Text] Mozambique is mourning. Orlando Cristina, father of the second national liberation struggle and unifier of all Mozambicans in the broad front which is the Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo, has died. [solemn music]

With the greatest grief and mourning, the Mozambique National Resistance wishes to inform all the Mozambique people of the death of Orlando Cristina, founder of the Mozambique National Resistance and its secretary general. Orlando Cristina, true father of the Mozambique National Resistance, having been gravely wounded inside Mozambique, was urgently withdrawn (?from here). However, he passed away at dawn of 19 April.

The Mozambique National Resistance, the people, and the entire nation are mourning. They are grieving over the loss of their leader and founder of the Liberation movement. Despite everything, the struggle will not stop. Orlando Cristina organized, founded, consolidated, and also ensured the future of the Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo. Our struggle does not halt, nor does it deviate for any single moment from its march with his death. On the contrary, it has given our struggle more determination and strength for continuing the liberation task in which we are involved. As a true national leader, his blood waters the roots of the revolution and liberation of the whole Mozambique people and nation. Therefore, in spite of the mourning in which all of us find ourselves, today we feel stronger and more determined than ever before. The strugggle continues. [solemn music]

Christina's Successor Reportedly Appointed

MB211916 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 83

[Eulogy for Orlando Christina, late secretary general of the Mozambique National Resistance]

[Excerpt] The hero has fallen. His blood is now yet another incentive to our liberation. The future has been ensured. In the meantime and in order to to fill the vacuum that has been created with the death of Orlando Christina, the movement has already appointed an interim secretary general who is going to exercise the functions of the post he left behind.

Frelimo Central Committee Session Underway

MB211445 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The 12th session of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party which began in Maputo yesterday, is continuing today with a general assessment of the degree of preparedness of the fourth congress. A Central Committee spokesman told the newspaper NOTICIAS that at this session the participants will analyze fundamental documents to be discussed by the Fourth Congress of the Frelimo Party. Yesterday's proceedings mainly consisted of preparing reports that the Central Committee will have to submit to the meeting of the supreme organ of the Frelimo Party.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Unaware of Christina-Resistance Ties

MB211153 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Criminal Investigation Department chief of the South African Police, General (Zietsman), says the police are investigating a shooting incident in which a white man, Mr Orlando Christina, died on a farm north of Pretoria. The shooting incident took place on Sunday evening. Gen (Zietsman) says the police have no knowledge of the victim's alleged connection with the Mozambique resistance movement.

Bomb at Pietermaritzburg Court Injures Man

MB211858 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2031 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Pietermaritzburg, April 21, SAPA — An explosion damaged the old Supreme Court building in Pietermaritzburg tonight. The blast, on the veranda of the 19th century building, slightly injured one man, according to first reports, and blew out windows and doors.

This is the third bomb attack on Supreme Court buildings in the Natal capital since the beginning of the year.

Ciskei President Calls for Confederation

MB211542 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1441 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Johannesburg, April 21 SAPA — The concept of confederation must be a statement of faith in the future, Ciskei president, Dr Lennox Sebe, said today. "It is where the future of the other national states, including South Africa, lies," the SAPA quoted him as saying.

Dr Sebe challenged South Africa in the National Assembly today to speed up the realisation of this concept, as the longer it was delayed, "the more suspicion Ciskei would have." He said even if the other national states did not want to climb on the wagon of confederation, Ciskei and those who wanted to continue with it must carry on and the others would climb on along the way. He added Ciskei wanted confederation based on fraternity, not maternalism.

Ciskei, being a free enterprise country, welcomed all white friends that had vision, said Dr Sebe. "They must come forward and prepare the future of their children also in Ciskei," he said.

On the proposed Southern African Development Bank, Dr Sebe said the purpose of the bank was to promote development in its broadest sense — "increase productivity and thus raise the standard of living of the poor."

P.W. Botha: Cinemas Not To Be Opened to All

MB211847 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] South Africa's cinemas will not be opened to all races. Prime Minister Pieter Botha replied in parliament this afternoon to a call for cinemas to be opened to all races for the film "Gandhi." Botha replied: No we don't want chaos in South Africa. Botha said, furthermore, South Africa would not be dictated to by the outside world as to whether cinemas should be opened to all.

Study of Mixed Marriages, Immorality Acts Offered

MB211439 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1400 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] House of Assembly [Cape Town], April 21, SAPA — The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said today he was prepared to refer the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Acts to a select committee of parliament provided the issue was approached on a strictly non-party political basis. Speaking in the debate on his department's budget vote he replied to questions put to him yesterday by the leader of the opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, and Mr Nic Olivier (P.F.P. [Progressive Federal Party] elected by members) about the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Acts.

Mr Botha said he had had many discussions with churches about the Mixed Marriages Act and he had found them to be deeply divided on the issue of retaining the act or doing away with it. He was not qualified or willing to set himself up as the judge. "I am prepared to refer the two acts to a select committee of parliament if all parties undertake to approach the matter on a non-party basis and in a spirit of responsibility, and that they afford the churches and others concerned proper opportunity to give evidence. "Then the government will consider the matter on merit," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha warned, however, that he could see no point in doing so if agitation and threats continued. "I have suggested to the churches that they come together and provide the government with a possible unanimous attitude and advice. "In the meantime I would advise against propaganda and I still hope they will discuss these matters with each other." Mr Botha appealed to churches: "Please do not seek confrontation with the state. The government has a duty to perform and it will not shirk that duty."

He repeated his view that he did not believe that maintenance of the Mixed Marriages Act was a prerequisite for the security and existence of the white man in South Africa. "I am personally opposed to immoral practices, but the government does not see these two laws as guarantees for the survival of South Africa."

He had expressed his views to the different churches in meetings with them and had told them that the laws had not come about as a whim of the day. "The laws concerned originated from churches, women's organisation and a petition signed by 250,000 some decades ago," he said. The laws were not intended to humiliate any group or race but to guard against making conditions more difficult in an already sensitive situation.

ZIMBABWE

Radio Truth: Delegation to Botswana 'Flop'

MB211328 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English, Shona, and Ndebele to Zimbabwe 1700 GMT 20 Apr 83

["News" item in English]

[Text] The high-level visit to Botswana by a Zimbabwe regime delegation last Friday apparently turned into a flop. The delegates, Mr Sekeremayi, Mr Munangagwa, Mr Ushewokunze, the commander of the Army, Rex Nhongo, and the commissioner of police, Mr Ngurube, is reported to have been snubbed by the Botswana president, Dr Masire, who did not even see them.

The delegation returned, unscheduled, to Zimbabwe on Saturday. It is understood the delegation was seeking an extradition treaty with Botswana, so that Matabele villagers married to [followers of] Joshua Nkomo could be sent back to Zimbabwe.